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Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 19:19:29 EDT
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: QRP-L digest 871

QRP-L Digest 871

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  8) [28170] RE: Attic Antennas
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     by LynnSimons@aol.com
 10) [28172] Re: Split FOX?
     by LynnSimons@aol.com
 11) [28173] Re: Team Challenge Standings
     by Stan <stan@cruzio.com>
 12) [28174] Re: Split FOX?
     by Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@contesting.com>
 13) [28175] Ant. test.
     by w7rfm@juno.com (John E Hirsch)
 14) [28176] Split, how to build it!
     by "Claton Cadmus" <aplitech@spacestar.net>
 15) [28177] Swap-meets....Attitudes....Secrets
     by n5inz@juno.com (John M Andrews)
 16) [28178] /RCC - Yowza!!
     by Chris Cartwright <ccart@dns.vidtel.com>
 17) [28179] Re: I'm the Fox for October 8, 00:00z to 02:00z
     by n8var@juno.com (Ronald D Doyle)
 18) [28180] Re: AOLoser problem & request
     by Thomas Isgro <kc8dgu@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>
 19) [28181] re: RCC

    by "Rich Dailey, KA8OKH" <ka8okh@som-uky.campus.mci.net>
20) [28182] KA5T North Dakota ops
    by Jim <kj5tf@mctc.com>
21) [28183] RE: ARK4 Final (MRF-476)
    by "W. Daniel, 9V1ZV" <daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg>
22) [28184] Re: ARK4 Final (MRF-476)
    by gsurrency@juno.com (Gary L L Surrency)
23) [28185] Re: Spelling
    by duane <duane@flinet.com>
24) [28186] Re: Split FOX?
    by Gary M - W2UX <MAIL4GARY@worldnet.att.net>
25) [28187] Parts sources/schematics
    by n4so@juno.com (charles k brown)
26) [28188] FOX: Split
    by AA0QX <AA0QX@prodigy.net>
27) [28189] Re: Team Challenge Standings
    by Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
28) [28190] Re: Thanks from FOX#2 AE9K
    by Jess Gypin <jessqrp@concentric.net>
29) [28191] FOX: SPLIT/NO SPLIT
    by tahrens1@juno.com
30) [28192] SST-40
    by kc4mhm@juno.com (ed miller)
31) [28193] Re: FOXing...think of working split?
    by John Marshall <johnmars@mindspring.com>
32) [28194] For Sale - cleaning house
    by Kr0i2@aol.com
33) [28195] Heathkit list?
    by Mike N9IVO <steam@megsinet.net>
34) [28196] Ten-Tec List address
    by Kr0i2@aol.com
35) [28197] AL7FS - My 1st Spartan Sprint
    by "Jim, Nancy, Juliann, and Issei" <larsennc@alaska.net>
36) [28198] Spartan Sprint Reporting Glitch
    by "Richard E. Fisher" <ki6sn@pe.net>
37) [28199] AL7FS - My 1st Spartan Sprint
    by "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
38) [28200] unsubscribe qrp-list
    by WSombeck@t-online.de (Wolfgang Sombeck)
39) [28201] Re: W1FB Review of JOY OF QRP
    by "Daniel L. Evans" <dlevans@hsonline.net>
40) [28202] FOXII-N-DILLOS
    by "Owen 'OJ' Quarles" <k1oj@swbell.net>
41) [28203] 20 mt QRP schematic needed
    by Paolo Sassoli <sassoli@ii1wh10.settimo.italtel.it>
42) [28204] RE: Split FOX?
    by talljazz@teleport.com (Dan Presley)
43) [28205] Re: Split FOX?

by Cleve Irby <cirby@bellsouth.net>
44) [28206] Re: Spelling
by Paul Helbert <phelbert@rica.net>
45) [28207] WTB: 38 Special kit
by Paul Helbert <phelbert@rica.net>
46) [28208] LDG GROUP PURCHASE!!! (incl. NEW 4:1 balun box!)
by "Scott Rosenfeld [NF3I]" <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
47) [28209] Re: WTB: 38 Special kit
by Paul Helbert <phelbert@rica.net>
48) [28210] An introduction to Mr. Slim
by "Scott Rosenfeld [NF3I]" <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
49) [28211] FOX: SPLIT YES
by SEAB&SHARON LYON <SSLYON@worldnet.att.net>
50) [28212] split
by "Rattray, Bruce" <Rattray@siast.sk.ca>
51) [28213] RE: Fox Split
by Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
52) [28214] KB7MBI QSL Card
by Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
53) [28215]
by kc5aik@juno.com (Larry H Sykes)
54) [28216] Re: Need all the mods to Pixie circuit
by Sam Mohan <SMohan@HNS.com>
55) [28217] FOX: "Ole Coots" Team Announcement
by Jack Meadows <jackmead@getnet.com>
56) [28218] Fox Hunt Evolution and Nostalgia (long)
by ji3m@maxwell.com (James R. Duffey)
57) [28219] Re: FOXII-N-DILLOS
by Chris Cartwright <ccart@dns.vidtel.com>
58) [28220] Re: FOX: SPLIT/NO SPLIT
by w7rfm@juno.com (John E Hirsch)
59) [28221] my wife wants to be fox
by BWHITTEM@mailgw.sanders.lmco.com
60) [28222] Re: Fox Hunt Evolution and Nostalgia (long)
by "Watson R Gabriel Jr" <wgabriel@duke-energy.com>
61) [28223] Isotron 160
by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
62) [28224] MFJ Lamp replacement
by Bill Morris Denton <bdenton@tenet.edu>
63) [28225] 38s wanted
by "Thomas J. Whalen" <whalen@swcp.com>
64) [28226] TenTec Address
by Kr0i2@aol.com
65) [28227] Re: Split FOX?
by Harvey Hetland <n6mm@earthlink.net>
66) [28228] Re: AL7FS - My 1st Spartan Sprint
by John Watrous <jwatrous@groucho.santarosa.edu>
67) [28229] Re: AOLoser problem & request

    by "Kevin Muenzler - WB5RUE" <wb5rue@stic.net>
 68) [28230] SST 20m Info?
    by Tom Moll <tomm@xata.com>
 69) [28231] Larry in North Dakota
    by Brad Mugleston <bmug@gwl.com>
 70) [28232] Pacificon Update from Vic Black (long)
    by ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us (Hendricks, Doug)
 71) [28233] Re: Pacificon Update from Vic Black
    by "Phil, K6LS" <k6ls@amsat.org>
 72) [28234] (No Subject)
    by "Michael Fletcher" <kl7ixi@mailcity.com>
 73) [28235] NorCal's Meeting Report
    by Jerry Parker <jparker@fix.net>
 74) [28236] QRP Dummy Load
    by Marcus Harton <mharton@freedomforum.org>
 75) [28237] Spam attack?
    by Vic Rosenthal <rakefet@rakefet.com>
 76) [28238] Re: Sputnik
    by sarraf@thermacore.com
 77) [28239] Re: FOX: "Ole Coots" Team Announcement
    by Bill Morris Denton <bdenton@tenet.edu>
 78) [28240] Building an AT-11 Ver 2.4? CORRECTION!
    by Bill Howell <bhowell@mail.utexas.edu>
 79) [28241] Re: SLIM - XU2ZD
    by af852@rgfn.epcc.Edu (William R Colbert)
 80) [28242] Re: Fox Hunt Evolution and Nostalgia
    by Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
 81) [28243] Re: Spam attack?
    by Richard Mulvey <mulveyr@frontiernet.net>
 82) [28244] RUFZ V3.0 Program
    by adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (Chuck Adams)
 83) [28245] Help w/FY?/DJ0PJ
    by "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
 84) [28246] WTB: 38 Special
    by "Jeff Casey" <WB5GWB@sprynet.com>
 85) [28247] sw listening
    by "Dean Marzocca" <n2tnn@ifu.net>

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 19:30:59 -0400 (EDT)
From: LynnSimons@aol.com
To: jessqrp@concentric.net, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28163] Re: Spelling
Message-ID: <971006192906_964942316@emout12.mail.aol.com>

Hey Jess,

I do that all the time! Thought I was the only one. Now maybe I can come out from under my blanket?

73/72,

Lynn, KJ3V

"I only have a few watts, but I use them wisely!"

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 16:38:00 -0700
From: w_hill@ns.net (Ward Hill)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28164] New NORCAL Kit Question
Message-ID: <v01540b00b05f22cd69a0@[204.119.242.55]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Not being Bill Gates, I would like to get an idea what the price of the new NORCAL project will be. I only need a ball park answer. Less that a $100 or more than a $100. The trip itself will tax the budget. So, how much do I need to hold back? Inquiring minds would like to know.

72/73,

Ward Hill - WA6FUH
w_hill@ns.net   Life Member ARRL   10-10 #27139 QRP-L #1117 AK/QRP #249

Engineer @
Channel 3 KCRA (NBC) &
Channel 58 KQCA (UPN soon to be the WB), Sacramento, California

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Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 17:17:10 -0700
From: gsurrency@juno.com (Gary L L Surrency)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28165] FOX: Split operation
Message-ID: <19971006.171710.6566.7.gsurrency@juno.com>

I had thought of this during the pileups (!) of recent Fox events. If any Fox op can do split, using RIT or whatever, I think it would make things go a lot smoother. Even lacking this ability, a 1 or 2 khz split frequency would make a *lot* of difference and it wouldn't be too hard to re-tune your rigs' frequency to the rcv / xmit freq.

Heck, a lot of us have multiple radios on 40m, so that would make it even easier to accomplish!

I vote a *big* yes on this idea! :-) Most definitely!

72,

AB7MY
Gary Surrency
Chandler, AZ (Near Phoenix), QRP-L #571, AZ ScQRPions, ARRL VE

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 17:20:02 -0700 (MST)
From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
To: mgipe@reliablemeters.com (Michael A. Gipe)
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28166] Re: Team Challenge Standings
Message-ID: <199710070020.RAA12155@usr06.primenet.com>
Content-Type: text

Howdy All,

Mike (K1MG), Well-known Sheep Rustler, wrote:
>
> Well now, Joe. I would be the last person in the world to suggest that
> something was remiss in the way the team standings were calculated just
> because the official involved was a founding member of the LOSING TEAM. In
> ...
> I was, of course, surprised, no, shocked, to notice a slight irregularity
> in the numbers representing the OFFICIAL results. After running the third
> linear regression analysis of your report, I concluded that the score
> variance had a 100% correlation to the relationship of the scorer to the
> captain of the LOSING TEAM.

Hey, I'm from AZ. We have a long-standing tradition of juggling numbers on official documents to suit our needs. Just ask our convicted governor. :-)

Now I *did* notice that this was extremely coincidental - when I originally ran 'grep' over the both sets of Fox results, I only

came up with one match for K5FO. Hence the one point.

So I started lookin' *real* close-like at them thar numbers, 'cuz unlike Uncle Bill up in Redmond, 'grep' don't lie. That's when I noticed this little tidbit in the Fox log:

```
>  TIME     CALL      NAME    STATE      RST-S/RST-R   QRP-L#
>
>  0200     K5OI      CHUCK   TX         559/559         1
```

Now clearly you can see that Tim must've realized that, by bravely and selflessly performin' Fox duty, he was gonna miss out on a Fox pelt. So he must've worked hisself, cleverly usin' Chuck's info to disguise the deed, but keepin' his call for the Hunt count ('cuz he's a Fox, see - clever and wiley, them Foxes). Can't sez that I blame 'em. Terrible job, that bein' a Fox an' all. Folks a yellin' and a hollerin' at ya. No peace. Nowhere to hide. No chance to answer Nature's call 'cuz you're too busy answerin' Hound calls, but Nature keeps a-callin' anyway.

So tell ya what I'm gonna do. I'll give you your pelt, 'cuz you're gonna need it. Heck, Ron got so scared he left the continent on some Love Boat thingie. Just a matter of time before Team AB7*T* pulls ahead anyway. Hah! HAH! And soon those boys from Buffalo are gonna sneak past you too. And you'll be wishin' you'd gone on that Love Boat tour with Ron. Only his wife would've kicked you off the boat, 'cause the last thing a spouse needs on a romantic cruise is a bunch of QRPers tagging along. So I guess you'll just have to stay on dry land and take it. :-)

Woof!

Cheers de AB7TT,

-Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPions (Phoenix)

"What, a raw frog?!? Don't you even take the bones out?!?"
"If we took the bones out they wouldn't be crunchy, would they?"

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 17:16:24 -0700
From: gsurrency@juno.com (Gary L L Surrency)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28167] HW-9: The (nearly) complete guide to the mods Part 3 of 3
Message-ID: <19971006.171710.6566.4.gsurrency@juno.com>

****
HIT DELETE NOW IF NOT INTERESTED IN HW-9 MODS
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IMPROVING THE PSA-9 MATCHING POWER SUPPLY

Heath really did a bad job on the power supply for this great little rig. The original design has three series-connected 1N4149 diodes in the ground lead of a LM78L12 three-terminal 100 ma regulator. This is to compensate for the approx. 0.7 volt drop in the current-boosting transistor that is added to increase the output current capacity to 1 amp, and to also boost the output voltage to 12.6 volts or so.

This is bad practice for good voltage regulation, since the added diodes and series current-boost transistor are all outside of the LM78L12 regulator's error amplifier, which in itself is a pretty good device. It's just plain bad design, and whoever at Heath designed this should have known better. Heck, an ordinary LM7812 would be simpler and much better regulated, but I wanted to have the ability to adjust the output voltage and still have good regulation.

Enter the LM317T three-teminal adjustable regulator, (R/S pn.276-1778, $1.99) I stripped all of the parts off of the smaller terminal strip in the original design, and saved the diodes in the bridge rectifier. I decided to use a 4700 uf 35v filter cap instead of the 2500 uf 50v cap Heath provided. The Heath cap is probably adequate, but I had the Radio Shack electrolytic (R/S pn. 272-1022, $3.95) and felt the added filtering couldn't hurt.

Since I like a narrow range of voltage adjustment, I employed a 100 ohm trimpot for the fine voltage adjustment, and used fixed resistors to set the limits of voltage ranget. A 150 ohm 1/4 resistor is used from the output pin of the LM317T to the adjustment pin, and after doing some calculations and a few trial and error tests, I used a parallel combination of a 2.2K and 3.9K resistor between the adjustment pin and the 100 ohm trimpot that connects to ground. The resulting range of adjustment is about 13.1 to 14.1 volts, with 13.6 volts near the trimpot's center setting.

MAKING THE MODS TO THE PSA-9

Mount the 4700 uf 25 v (or re-mount the original 2500 uf 50v cap) electrolytic on top of the larger terminal strip to provide room to work on the new regulator circuit that is built on the small terminal strip. Remove Q1, and the small terminal strip from the power supply. Remove the pilot lamp assembly and save it for later re-installation. Strip all of the parts from the small terminal strip, and save the 100 uf cap for later re-use. The 1N4149 diodes, the 1 ohm 2w resistor, and the 1500 ohm

1/4 resistor can all be discarded or tossed into the junk box. Clean all of the solder, flux, and crud from the small terminal strip using a Solder Sucker or Soder Wick and acetone and prepare it as follows:

Cut the terminal strip so that it has only 7 lugs, with 4 on one side of the ground lug and two on the other side of the ground lug. Mount it with the 4 lug side towards the left edge of the power supply chassis as viewed from the front panel. This is flipped from the way it was originally mounted. You may want to pre-mount most of the following parts to the terminal strip temporarily mounted on the outside bottom of the chassis for convenient access to the lugs.

If you have another value for the trimpot, you'll need to experiment with the fixed resistors between it and the adjustment pin to get the 13.6 volts or so I think is ideal for the HW-9. Use another pot of 3K to 5K in place of the fixed resistor for a coarse control and use the small value trim pot you'll keep for the fine adjustment. Set the range with the 3K or 5K pot with the 100 ohm to 500 ohm fine adjust pot in its center setting. Then, measure the value of the 3K to 5K pot with an ohm meter and select a fixed resistor or combination of fixed resistors to match the measured pot value.

I soldered some 16 gauge wires to the LM317T 3-terminal regulator and covered the connections with insulating tubing. It is mounted in the same hole as Q1, (Heath pn 417-852, TIP31) the pass transistor was bolted, using the same insulating mica washer and nylon shoulder washer. I soldered the input pin of the LM317T to the positive terminal of the 4700uf 35v (or 2500uf 50v cap if you keep the Heath part), and connected the adjustment and output leads of the LM317T to the first and second lugs of the small terminal strip, as viewed from the front of the power supply, left-to-right. The 150 ohm resistor is connected from lug 1 to lug 2, and one end of each of the parallel combination of the 2.2k / 3.9K resistors are also soldered to lug 1, with the other ends soldered to lug 4.

The 100 ohm trimpot (a CTS blue knob miniature trimpot, like the ones Heath uses in the HW-9) is soldered facing up across lugs 4 and 6, with the center (wiper) lead in the bottom hole of lug 5. Bend the outer terminals of the pot so they are flat against the terminal lugs, and at a right angle.

I re-used the 100 uf electrolytic cap C2 from the old circuit for transient load suppression. The negative lead connects from lug 7 to lugs 6 and 5 (ground). The positive lead goes to lug 2 and 3 (output). Also run a wire from the bottom hole of lug 2, which is the output, to the fuse mounted on the back of the case. The pilot lamp is retained and connected to lugs 2 (output) and 7 (ground).

I heavily painted the terminals of the AC power slide switch with some red fingernail polish, so I would be less likely to touch 110v when adjusting the trimpot to the desired output voltage. You could also use some insulating sleeving if you re-dress the wires on the switch lugs slightly.

I noticed some voltage drop across the original 1 1/2 amp output fuse that reduces the loaded voltage regulation. I replaced it with a 2 amp fuse that had less series resistance and caused less voltage drop under load. A better solution would be to move the fuse to the unregulated side of the LM317T chip, between the filter cap and the input terminal. This would eliminate all fuse-induced voltage drop, and still provide the desired protection from short circuits across the output, and would also protect the LM317T and rectifiers better.

The new regulated supply is adjustable from about 13.1 volts to 14.1 volts, with 13.6 volts near the center of adjustment. Output current is more than 1 amp, typically 1.5 amps, and the ripple is below 1mv on my DVM under a load of 1.5 amps using a 8 ohm load resistor. The output voltage as measured between the power supply chassis and the input to the fuse does not measurably change from no load to 1.5 amperes. The only measureable voltage drop is in the wiring and connections to the HW-9, and this is only approx. 0.2 volt during transmit. The HW-9 now has a very stable power supply that is ripple-free and well regulated, further reducing the chance of any frequency shift of the BFO, or HFO, since they are supplied from the 12 volt (13.6 volt actual) PSA-9 DC supply.

REMOVING THE VFO CAP AND RESTORING THE POTS

I find it easier to remove the screws securing the back panel and middle shield to the sides of the chassis to permit room to remove the VFO capacitor. Leave the middle back panel screws alone, and spread the sides slightly to allow both the T/R and Oscillator boards along with the middle shield to slip back an inch or so. Then the VFO cap will come out easily if you have removed the tuning shaft extension and the four 4-40 nuts from inside the VFO shield.

If the pots for some or all of the front panel controls have gotten dirty or feel poor, you can unsolder the wiring and remove them to be cleaned. By prying up the tabs that hold the back of the pots together, the resistance element and shaft can be removed. Clean the wiping contacts and the resistance elements with Q-tips or a toothbrush and Soft-Scrub (tm). Rinse everything well under water and dry. I use silicon grease on the shaft and shaft bushing to get that nice "feel" when rotating the pot. The RIT pot needs to have a little grease on its back cover to allow the center detent to act properly. Replace the pot cover and gently squeeze the tabs back in place with some large needle-nose

pliers. This may save you some money on new pots, and will generally restore the pot's function to new condition.

SUMMARY

If you try some or all of these mods, please let me know how well they did or didn't work for you. I welcome your comments or observations. Note that Heath made several errors on the schematic, and that all of the active audio filter ceramic disc caps should be identified as 1000 pf (.001 uf), even though C339 and C341 are shown as 100 pf. Also, R354 is shown as 15 megohms, when it is really 1.5 megohms as R359 is. I am still trying to find out what device Q403 is, as the manual fails to mention it in the Semiconductor Identification Chart. It is only identified as a Heath part number 417-865, for which I have no information. There are surely more errors and omissions in the manual and schematic if you look for them.

Thanks for the interest in improving the HW-9, and try these ideas if you get a chance. I think you will like the results. For more info on improving the crystal IF filter, see the ARRL's Hints and Kinks for the Radio Amateur, 13th edition, pages 1-4 and 1-5. I have the Kenwood IF filters to do this mod, but I think I'll use the radio as-is for a while before getting out the soldering iron again. ;-)

72 and good luck with your HW-9!

AB7MY
Gary Surrency
Chandler, AZ (Near Phoenix), QRP-L #571, AZ ScQRPions, ARRL VE

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 17:16:54 -0700
From: gsurrency@juno.com (Gary L L Surrency)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28168] HW-9: The (nearly) complete guide to the mods. Part 2 of 3
Message-ID: <19971006.171710.6566.6.gsurrency@juno.com>

****
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****

AGC MODS

The AGC is too fast for my tastes, and the S-meter tends to beat itself to death on CW signals as it jumps up and down on every CW character.

There are a couple of ways to slow the AGC and S-meter operation. Either decrease the value of C317, a 3.3 uf electrolytic; or increase the value of R312. Or, do both! I decided to simply remove R312, a 47k 1/4 watt resistor that is the primarly discharge path for C317. This slows the AGC and S-meter quite a bit, and is easy to do. C317 then discharges through R311 and R309, as well as R316 and IF amplifier U301. Some discharge also occurs by way of D306 and the S-meter FET amp.

While trying several caps for C317, I found a 33 uf cap produced about what I wanted for the AGC time constant / S-meter behavior. But I concluded such a large value of capacitance might load the AGC output level of U302, causing a loss of proper attack time and AGC peak voltage level. I therefore decided on removing R312, which produces about the same affect on AGC time constant with no additional loading of the AGC circuit.

TRANSMIT / RECEIVE TRANSITION IMPROVEMENTS

Much of the improvement of the T/R switching is achieved by the mods to the keying circuit mentioned earlier. However, some additional improvements can still be had by addressing the receiver muting. Transistor Q303 is a MPSA20 (Heath pn 417-801) general purpose device. It lacks the low ON saturation voltage and switching characteristics needed in muting the audio input to U306, the AF power output amplifier.

Using Molex pins again, I tried a large number of NPN transistors for Q303. Most of the high gain, low VsatON devices performed better muting of the audio line and helped reduce the small T/R pops during fast QSK settings of the Mute Delay adjustment pot. Believe it or not, the best device turned out to be a spare Heath transistor I had for my SB-104A transceiver! It is a Heath part number, 417-233, or a 2N3643.

If you can't find something similar, look for a high beta audio transistor with 600ma to 800ma maximum collector current rating. The NTE replacement guide shows a NTE128 as a possible part. Run the audio gain at near maximum while keying the rig at the shortest Mute Delay settings to find the quietest transistor. Note that you should *not* turn the AF gain to its maximum setting, as this will induce another T/R pop that is practically impossible to eliminate without further modifications. This was mentioned earlier in the section on KEYING mods.

It is also *not* necessary to increase the CW Level so that the rig is transmitting, unless you think the additional current draw might introduce more T/R noise. I did not notice this with my rig.

I should mention that a 2N7000 TMOS FET could be used as a muting transistor, but unless a discharge resistor is added from the Gate to ground, once the Mute signal is applied to the 2N7000's Gate, it will

"latch" and not turn off during the return to receive! I tried a 2N7000 on mine, and although it worked well at killing the audio pops during Mute, I decided the 2N3643 worked just as well and did not require another resistor as the 2N7000 would. Several mods have appeared in various publications about putting a series Mute FET in the audio lead to the input of the AF power output IC, but this requires more effort and modifications than just finding the "right" muting transistor for Q303.

HELP FOR THE BFO, VFO, ETC.

If you still can't get enough output on your rig after doing the pre-driver mods for Q401 and Q402, you might have low output from the BFO circuit. Note on the schematic how the output level of the BFO is varied by the CW Level Control on the front panel. Diode D143 is used to shunt a portion of the BFO signal to ground before it is introduced into the SBL-1 bilateral diode ring mixer. This is a rather unconventional yet effective way to control the transmitted power level.

Since Heath commonly used the MPSA20 (Heath pn. 417-801) device in many kits and circuits such as the BFO in the HW-9, I figured it was probably not the ideal device for RF applications. Once again, some improvement can be gained by selecting a better device for some of the BFO stages. There are a couple of choices here to obtain increase BFO drive - both for the transmitter stages and also for the receiver's Product Detector. You can either pull out several of the Heath 417-801 transistors and select the best ones for critical circuit locations, or use another device altogether if you don't mind replacing the original Heath parts.

Since I had some Heath 417-801 spares from my SB-104A rig, I decided to pick a few of them for the BFO that gave me the most output without making any other changes. If you remove several 417-801 transistors from your HW-9, you can select the ones that perform best where they are needed. Otherwise, use MPS2222A, 2N2222A, or 2N3904 transistors that are widely available.

Using Molex pin sockets for Q113, Q114, and Q115, try several different transistors for the greatest and cleanest output of the BFO. Monitor the BFO level using the Heath provided RF detector at test point TP104, and / or the S-meter during transmit as it monitors relative power ouput. You should not increase the BFO's output to the point that spurious output is developed from overdriving the SBL-1 mixer and succeeding transmitter stages. You wouldn't want to undo all the work just done in the pre-driver stages by applying too much BFO injection!

I found a couple of 417-801 Heath transistors that were much better than the original devices in the BFO stages. The most critical device is Q113 for decent BFO injection to the receiver Product Detector, U303. For the transmitter BFO injection, Q114 seemed to be more a factor than Q115 (as

you might expect!), and the increased BFO signal made available allows the CW Level Control to be adjusted to a lower setting for good output and smooth control of the PA output level.

In fact, the additional BFO output actually seems to make the CW Level Control more broad in its adjustment. This is probably due to a greater available amount of BFO RF into D143 at lower settings of forward bias from the CW Level Control, rather than when it is almost biased completely off for greatest PA power output when only low BFO drive is present. D143 must have a more linear affect on the output level while it is still partially forward biased versus when it is nearly completely biased off.

The MPF105 used for the BFO oscillator turned out to be more than adequate, and so it was not replaced. After selecting your favorite part for Q113 - Q115, be sure to re-adjust the BFO frequency, and BFO filter inductor L137 as outlined in the manual.

Low VFO output can be corrected with a 2N3906 at Q106, or try several Heath 417-234 transistors (2N3638A) if you have them. My VFO does not exhibit much drift, and other info on tracking down excessive drift is covered in the HW-8 Handbook.

I used a 5.6K resistor across Transmit Return control R131 to make it less touchy to adjust. Just tack it onto the outside leads of the trim pot from the top the the PCB. If 5.6K is too small, try a 6.2K resistor instead. The object is to make the adjusment of the Transmit Return voltage very broad, rather than the difficult adjustment it previously was. Another method would be to use a smaller control than the 50k pot Heath provided, and adjust the ratio of R127 / R131, but the parallel fixed resistor across R131's terminals is easy and neat.

VFO DRIVE PROBLEMS

The small vernier drive used to tune the VFO cap has low torque, and the VFO cap is often mis-aligned with the drive mechanism, causing binding and slippage of the dial. I checked the VFO cap shield for squareness, and it seemed OK. However, the VFO capacitor itself seemed to be non-perpendicular from the rear mounting surface to the shaft. Many HW-9s have one of the VFO shields removed, since this makes the shields more rigid to flexing, with the result being the dial and shaft will bind.

Also, if the vernier is not properly mounted and the hex nuts at *each* end of the vernier tightened properly, there is not enough torque to overcome VFO drive friction. Be sure the vernier nut closest to the small pinion that is part of the VFO vairable cap is snug. If that is satisfactory, tighten *only* the front hex nut on the vernier to secure it to the VFO shield. It is wise to leave the three mounting screws on

the rear of the VFO slightly loose and rotate the VFO through its entire range of rotation before final tightening of the vernier drive and the VFO capacitor mounting screws. Find the location of the VFO cap mounting that results in least binding.

If it still binds, either place thin shims between the VFO capacitor and the rear of the VFO shield, or leave the VFO cap mounting screws just slightly loose, but not too loose. Try turning the VFO cap to the point of greatest binding, and then make small movements in the vernier drive and/or VFO cap mounting screws until it frees up a bit.

I was able to retain the second VFO shield (which I had to fabricate, since it was missing from my HW-9) and find a workable adjustment of the shield and VFO mounting screws. The slide-on second VFO shield is useful in making the knob and tuning shaft "feel" more rigid, as without it, the single "U" - shaped VFO shield is inadequate for overall VFO rigidity. A "box" shape is many times more rigid than a "U" shape, so use both shields if you can without excessive dial slippage. The rotation of the dial should be light and free of binding if you can get it all to work out properly. It is a poor design, and *very* tempermental to assemble.

END OF PART 2

AB7MY
Gary Surrency
Chandler, AZ (Near Phoenix), QRP-L #571, AZ ScQRPions, ARRL VE

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 17:16:32 -0700
From: gsurrency@juno.com (Gary L L Surrency)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28169] HW-9: The (nearly) complete guide to the mods. Part 1 of 3
Message-ID: <19971006.171710.6566.5.gsurrency@juno.com>

****
HIT DELETE NOW IF NOT INTERESTED IN HW-9 MODS
****

The HW-9 is a fine rig. However, it *does* have some problems as delivered by Heath. In this article, I hope to show how to improve the performance of the HW-9 and encourage others to try their own hand at problems areas that their rig may exhibit. Feel free to contact me with your own mods, or any questions that this material may create.

Since this mod list is quite long, I have broken it up into three

sections so as to not cause some mailers to choke. If anyone wants it all in one piece, I can email it to you complete.

As mentioned in a previous posting, I will address a number of problems that my HW-9 had.

Please note that I find Molex IC pins to be invaluable when substituting components, as they can be individually installed for transistor, diode, capacitor, or resistor sockets. This saves damage to the PCB, and allows me to try different devices without reaching for the soldering iron each time, or removing or replacing the PCB between tests.

These socket pins come on a "tree" carrier that you can use for various IC pin counts, and are separated normally by snapping off the "tree" after installation. When used individually, they are a little more difficult to get installed straight without burning your fingers. I use a 1/4 watt resistor as a holding tool as I solder the individual pins.

VOLTAGE REGULATOR

Change U402 from a 78L08 to a 78L09 regulator, and replace D409 with a jumper wire. This will give you a nice solid 9 volt regulated supply with better regulation and slightly cooler operation of U402, as it isn't dropping as much voltage. I thought I could hear a very slight "chirp" on the transmitted signal before I made this change, and the original setup only provided about 8.6 volt with the diode in series with the regulator's ground pin. The diode is *not* in the error feedback loop of U403, so the regulation is not what it should be. The additional few tenths of a volt and better regulation are welcome in the VFO, second IF filter / amplifier, and AGC circuits.

Notice that as Heath designed the radio, the BFO isn't operating from a steady regulated source. Many critical circuits in the rig are powered direct from the poorly regulated 12 volt main supply, rather than an accurately regulated source. I will later describe mods to the PSA-9 power supply to correct poor regulation that can also contribute to frequency shifts during transmit. If you use a different power supply to run the radio, be aware that its stability under load needs to be good to keep the signal from chirping, as the BFO and HFO do not like an unsteady DC source. Frequency stability from these circuits is crucial to signal quality.

KEYING

The first thing I noticed when I received my HW-9, which I did not build, was that the keying was pretty soft. This was especially true when looking at the trailing edge of the keyed waveform on an oscilloscope. There was just too much of a "tail" on the key-up portion of the

envelope. Although the HW-8 Handbook has some ideas on correcting this problem, I chose my own method, and it is simpler.

It seems that capacitor C578, a 47uf electrolytic, is way too large in value. I found I never needed to turn the Mute Delay control anywhere near its maximum, and so I began to examine this part of the schematic for ideas. By simply changing C578 from 47 uf to 10uf, the key-up waveform edge became much shorter. After this change, I still have plenty of Mute Delay for all practical purposes, but I noticed the shortest setting of the control permitted a little T/R click to pass into the audio chain. It seems the large 47uf original value for C578 delays the turn-off characteristics of the keyed line.

By changing R444 from 180 ohms to 1500 ohms, the proper range of Mute Delay is preserved, and the T/R click is eliminated. There is a click at full audio gain, but this seems unrelated to the Mute Delay time constant. It may be due to the DC coupling from U306 to Q303, but I don't think it is significant unless you are hard of hearing and like to run your audio gain full tilt!

I also observed the leading edge of the keyed waveform is a little fast on rise time, and sounds kind of "hard" when monitored on a local receiver. A quick improvement for this behavior can be had by changing C435 from 2.2 uf to 4.7 uf. The rising edge of the keyed RF waveform is a little slower now and sounds better. Try several sizes of caps if you want to see what affect it will have.

RECEIVE SENSITIVITY

Heath has always tended to use the MPF105 junction FET in a lot of their kits. This device has a very poor transconductance, as mentioned in an article I read in 73 Magazine on "How to Make a HW-8 Come Alive", May 1996, by Gerald F. Gronson K8MKB. As he said, Heath couldn't have chosen a worse device for the RF amplifier in the HW-8. "A coupling capacitor would be a better choice than a MPF105", he writes.

This is also true for the IF amplifier preceding the crystal filter in the HW-9. Again, using Molex socket pins, I tried a number of FETs to see what could be achieved. Many higher gain FETs, such as the J310 and J309 seemed to have too much gain, and caused oscillation and instability without redesigning the entire amplifier stage and it's biasing, termination, etc. So I settled on a MPF102 (R/S pn. 276-2062, $0.99) chosen from a number of devices I had on hand.

A good increase in sensitivity is the result, and I used the current measurement through source resistor R305 as a guide to selecting a proper candidate. I also monitored a weak signal on the rig's S-meter for best signal strength as I chose the best device. Re-adjust T301 and the AGC

threshold control, R329 after making this substitution as described in the manual for proper S-meter behavior. Use care and a proper tool to tune the slug in T301 so it does not crack or crumble.

AUDIO IMPROVEMENTS

The HW-8 Handbook mentions that capacitor C336, a 2.2 uf electrolytic, is installed backwards for polarity. This is certainly true, and it should be reversed from what is shown in the manual, schematic, and PCB silk-screening. If you like, you can try a slightly larger cap for C336 (using Molex pin sockets!) to see if the audio quality is improved. I kept the original cap but turned it around.

A mention is made in the HW-8 Handbook about substituting a TL084C quad FET op amp for the LM324 used at U304. This is supposed to retain the high impedance of the active audio filter and is claimed to be a quieter device. I had some TL084C ICs, so what the heck? I did not see a noticeable improvement, but if your audio filter seems noisy or if the bandwidth is not what you think it should be, give it a try.

I noticed the active audio bandpass filter center frequency is not the same as the crystal filter's center frequency. I still have to address this problem, but if your rig seems particularly poor in this respect, check R354 and R359 to see if they are close to 1.5 megohms and matched in value. C339, C341, C344, and C345 all need to be matched in value for best filter performance. Heath used ordinary ceramic disk caps for these, and they have only 20% tolerance or so. Use a capacitor meter if you have one, and select four caps that are as close as possible to use in the filter. If you don't have enough of these, remove several other .001uf disk caps from other places on the T/R board and select the four best candidates. Use the fall-outs for the other caps, since their circuits are not as critical.

Polyester or mylar caps have normally better tolerance, stability, and leakage than the ceramic disks used, so if you can get them - use them. I think the audio filter's center bandpass frequency should be shifted slightly lower than it currently is, so .0012 or .0015 uf caps might be a better choice here. I prefer not to parallel or series connect several components to get the value needed, so some parts searching is in order.

Using 1.8 megohm resistors for R354 and R359 might do the trick, but I haven't done the math or tried them since I didn't have any in my parts bins. Most other audio filters I have encountered do not use such high R and small C values. All new values for the filter might be the way to go, but the existing filter works pretty well - even if it is too high in center frequency for the crystal IF filter and my preferences. The S-meter and audio filter should peak on at the same frequency.

TRANSMIT STABILITY and POWER OUTPUT

I had no complaint about the output power level of nearly 7 watts maximum on bands 80m through 15m, but 15m seemed a little unstable. On 12m and 10m, the output was down slightly to 3 watts or so. On 15m, the CW Level control seemed to be non-linear when increasing and particularly *decreasing* the power level. I suspected some spurious behavior of the driver or PA stages. It turned out to be in the pre-driver stages.

In the original design, Heath used MPS6521 transitors (Heath pn. 417-172) for Q401 and Q402, the pre-drivers that precede Q404. Q404 is a 2N3866 (Heath pn. 417-205) that is more than adequate in power gain and frequency. However, there are ferrite beads on the base leads of Q401 & Q402. I have found this to usually indicate a problem area that needs addressing, rather than taking a Band-Aid (tm) approach!

Sure enough, here is where the instability and loss of power output on 12m and 10m was found. If your rig's output level drops suddenly from a constant level as you reduce the CW Level control - especially on 15m for some reason - then you need to look into this.

After installing Molex pin sockets on Q401 & Q402, I began the tedious search for transistors that were both more stable and had greater output on the two higher bands. After trying perhaps 100 devices of maybe 5 or 6 types, I finally found the right combination. Q401 seems to be not as critical as Q402 is, and almost any PN2222, 2N2222a or MPS2222a will work fine for Q401. However, Q402 is a different subject entirely. Nearly every flavor of xx2222x device I tried caused spurious output and instability - especially on 10m. The ferrite beads offered no help in reducing this problem.

I finally found (after some mumbling and cursing) 1 or 2 2N3904 transistors that behaved well and gave decent output on 10m. Many of the 2N3904's I tried were simply "too hot" and caused a spur on the transmitted waveform between 3 and 5 watts output. The OHR WM-1 wattmeter also indicated a sharp increase in output level, due to increased harmonic / spurious output. The extra "trash" on the transmitted waveform was easily noticeable.

Apparently, without major changes in the circuit design, about 4 or 5 watts on 10m is the greatest output level that can be produced without excessive spurious content. I settled for this, using a prime MPS2222a (R/S pn. 276-2009, $0.59 ea) for Q401 and a MPS3904 (R/S pn 276-2016, $0.59 ea) for Q402. If you have several different manufacturing brands for the 2N3904 device, try them. Some behave quite differently from others, and you need to find one that is not too "hot" but has decent high frequency performance. Expect to spend some time trying quite a few before you find the *correct* device, and the Molex pins or sockets are

a must for this selection process.

Note that the ferrite beads were of no help in reducing the spurs, and are *not* required or recommended with the transistors I recommend. The 2N4401 part mentioned by some was a poor performer compared to the 2N2222a / MPS2222a and 2N3904 / MPS3904 combination for Q401 and Q402, respectively. My final choices were *both* made by Motorola: Q401 is a MPS2222a and Q402 is a 2N3904, although Radio Shack lists it as a MPS device, it is actually branded as a 2N3904 device.

The final result is a broad range of adjusting the CW Level Control will produce from 7-8 watts on 80m through 12m, and about 4.5 to 5 watts on 10m, depending on the VFO setting. No instability or sudden changes in output level occur on any band, as it should be.

As mentioned in the HW-8 Handbook , I use and recommend NTE401 heat sinks for long life of the MRF237 PA transistors, especially if the ambient temperature is high (as in AZ on BUBBA day!) or if you enjoy long tune-ups, 5 watt operation, or rag-chewing. They will just fit if you adjust the position of T403 slightly. Use a small amount of themal compound before pressing the heat sinks into place. The bandswitch shaft will just clear the new heat sinks, that have one more fin and are slightly larger in diameter. Use one of the original heat sinks on Q404 if you like (it's not really needed) and rest confidently that the PA transistors Q405 & Q406 are much cooler in operation. Be safe and hold the output level at 5 watts maximum.

I'm curious as to why Heath didn't design the PA stage as a push-pull output, as it is almost as simple as the parallel PA design they used. One day I might try to change it to push-pull as that would insure the two transistors share equally in the load, and second-order harmonics would be even less. Some biasing changes might be necessary, but the parallel scheme works just fine, although if the two MRF237's aren't pretty close in characteristics, one of them will "hog" more of the load than the other. If your rig's output is low on all bands, one MRF237 is probably toasted.

END OF PART 1

AB7MY
Gary Surrency
Chandler, AZ (Near Phoenix), QRP-L #571, AZ ScQRPions, ARRL VE

Date: Mon, 06 Oct 97 17:28:00 PDT
From: Cecil A Moore <Cecil_A_Moore@ccm.ch.intel.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28170] RE: Attic Antennas

>From: WA8GHZ /5 Jack Dougherty <jdougher@wt.net>
>The indoor 30 Meter loop works great on all bands with a tuner and
>coax feed - actually 30 meters is the place of its worst performance
>despite it's designed length for that band...even get to work some
>160 meters with a 2.5:1 swr.

Hi Jack, lest anybody get the idea that the SWR between the tuner
and the 30m loop is 2.5:1 - EZNEC sez that the SWR on the coax for a
30m loop used on 160M is in excess of 100:1 which means that almost
all the power on 160m is dissipated as heat in the coax. The 2.5:1
SWR that you measured obviously exists *only* in the short run of
coax between the tuner and the transmitter.

73, Cecil, W6RCA

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 20:45:10 -0400 (EDT)
From: LynnSimons@aol.com
To: ccart@dns.vidtel.com, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28171] Re: /RCC ???
Message-ID: <971006204019_1165318261@emout16.mail.aol.com>

Hi all,

My guess for the /RCC is that someone sending this is looking for something
just a little more than the usual signal exchange, 73, TU GL es BK.... This
stood for the Rag Chewers Club in the old days (don't know if it is still
around). But I used to belong. I know I have that certificate around here
somewhere....now let me just move this mess over to that mess...let me see.

Any way, I always appreciate it when I run across some one who likes to 'rag
chew'. Meaning they are willing to talk about a whole host of things. I
especially like this on CW since this is all I do any way.

Well, there is my guess as to what the sender may be looking for...my
proverbial $0.02.

73/72 all

and look for me on the air if you want to rag chew some time.

p.s. please ignore any spelling errors that magically cropped up in here
after I sent this thing out into the ether!

Lynn, KJ3V

"I only have a few watts, but I use them wisely!"

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 20:45:17 -0400 (EDT)
From: LynnSimons@aol.com
To: k0gjx@classic.msn.com, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28172] Re: Split FOX?
Message-ID: <971006204229_-926455771@emout19.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 97-10-06 17:03:22 EDT, k0gjx@classic.msn.com writes:

<< get with the
 program and use real qrp rigs!! They should be mfj, norcal, ohr,emtech, sw
and
 for sure HOMEBREW!! >>
Hey what happened to Heathkit....they're my favorite?

Lynn, KJ3V

"I only have a few watts, but I use them wisely!"

Date: Mon, 06 Oct 1997 17:38:34 -0700
From: Stan <stan@cruzio.com>
To: vole@primenet.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28173] Re: Team Challenge Standings
Message-ID: <3439848A.2118@cruzio.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Joe Gervais wrote:

> That's when I
> noticed this little tidbit in the Fox log:
>
> > TIME   CALL   NAME   STATE   RST-S/RST-R   QRP-L#
> >

> > 0200   K5OI   CHUCK   TX   559/559   1
>
> Now clearly you can see that Tim must've realized that, by bravely
> and selflessly performin' Fox duty, he was gonna miss out on a Fox
> pelt. So he must've worked hisself, cleverly usin' Chuck's info to
> disguise the deed, but keepin' his call for the Hunt count ('cuz he's
> a Fox, see - clever and wiley, them Foxes).

Now hold on just a minute Joe. To the best of my knowledge , I was the only fox to work myself as a hound.. and that required a beam antenna that I could turn 180 degees to answer myself longpath.

You can't do that with copper !

Stan N6XU

Date: Mon, 06 Oct 1997 20:57:23 -0400
From: Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@contesting.com>
To: jskalski@acsu.buffalo.edu
Cc: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28174] Re: Split FOX?
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19971007005723.009a19ac@tir.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 05:23 PM 10/6/97 -0400, J. Skalski wrote:
>Think about it this way....If people are spread out more people may be
>heard. The people that are right on frequency have a greater chance of
>being heard when a lot of others are up or down 1 kc (Khz).
>
>How about, "the fox will listen + or - ____ Khz and on frequency".
>
>For every problem there is at leastt one solution. (not necessarily
>correct answers :-)

Or how about something really novel. Let the FOX pick team members in each call area. Have those team members take a list 1 hour before the FOX is scheduled to show up. Then 15 min before the scheduled time, e-mail the list to the FOX.

Naw, don't think I'll put that one out on the list!

73   Hank   K8DD

*/   Hank Kohl K8DD   k8dd@contesting.com
*/   ARRL TS   (k8dd@tir.com)
*/   MI-QRP - Vice Pres. QRP-ARCI - Director
*/   G-QRP   ARRL/LM   QCWA/LM   QCAO/LM

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 17:45:56 -0700
From: w7rfm@juno.com (John E Hirsch)
To: "Low Power Amature Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28175] Ant. test.
Message-ID: <19971006.174603.4294.0.w7rfm@juno.com>

I will be testing a new antenna set up this evening. I is one that N7MOB
gave me the scope on. It is a ham stick up 12 at the base with a set of
counter poise for directivity.
Hopefully I have it pointed at OH. where the fox will be tomorrow night.

I do not copy as fast as most of you send but will be listening to see
what I can see. I will be on or around 7037 at about 0145utc.

W7RFM John

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 19:59:48 -0500
From: "Claton Cadmus" <aplitech@spacestar.net>
To: "QRP-l" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28176] Split, how to build it!
Message-ID: <199710070100.UAA06524@webster.spacestar.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Most of the simple QRP rigs these days are tuned by Varactor diodes. To add a
second "VFO" only requires a second pot and a SPDT switch. You could even get
fancy and power each pot from the receive and transmit V+ lines. Using a small
external case and a 1/8 stereo phone plug and bang, an external VFO!

----
73 de KA0GKC Claton Cadmus
E-mail cla@spacestar.net
If you live in Minnesota check out this webpage!
http://www.qsl.net/mnqrp

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 18:02:35 -0700
From: n5inz@juno.com (John M Andrews)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28177] Swap-meets....Attitudes....Secrets
Message-ID: <19971006.180236.3222.5.N5INZ@juno.com>

Howdy folks:

Nearly getting settled in. Lots of stuff still on my plate but decided to take a break and go to the Belton Ham-Expo north
of Austin as a seller. It was one of the best organized ham-meets I've seen in years. Large turnout. Super friendly.
No one puts on a better swap-meet then the Texas folks.

My sales were a bust. After about 2 hours I threw in the towel and locked it down. Took the tour and looked around.
Bought a few items: MFJ-259 for so little I'm embarrased to even mention it, WM-2 for a "fair price", and a OHR-20
meter rig still in the parts bags(vintage '93) for cheap. Now that I've collected up as many Heath Q-multipliers as I
need for a few bucks each, I'll let those owners of the "Dan's Bare-Bones NW-8020" in on a secret. The Heath
Variable is a perfect fit on the PC board and even has the 8:1 vernier ratio. Just yank afew plates off to bring down
the capacitance. Fairly nice pointer also.

Ran into a few non-modem qrpers and they let the cat out of the bag on the next NorCal project. Nope...I ain't tellin'
and yep, I WANT one. Everyone in this bunch needs one.

My vintage bug did'nt sell. I withdrew it after 3-4 offers of $5-10 dollars. Did'nt want my nose out of joint.
Tried to sell baggies of capacitors(NP0/C0G, Silver Mica,Tants) for cheap. No one builds anymore. As a QRPer/
homebrewer I always judge the flavor of a large swapmeet this way:

1. Anyone selling solder?
2. Can you buy anything in the way of a kit other then Ramsey?

Nope.

Well...It *was* fun and I met a lot of great folks I'm proud to call hams.

Don't miss the Austin QRP meeting this Sat. if you are in the area. I
expect good things from them.

72, John-N5INZ

San Antonio

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 21:22:21 -0400 (EDT)
From: Chris Cartwright <ccart@dns.vidtel.com>
To: QRP Reflector <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28178] /RCC - Yowza!!
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.93.971006211956.2180A-100000@dns.vidtel.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

> Rag Chewer's Club

Phew! 26 replies and still counting! Thanks to all, 72

-- Chris Cartwright,   Technical Engineer | ccart@vidtel.com   --
-- N3XRV   ARRL-VE   QRP WAS 20/10(w/c) | ccart@erols.com   --
-- QRP-L #655 NORCAL #1891 QRP-ARCI #???? | http://dns.vidtel.com/~ccart --

---

Date: Mon, 06 Oct 1997 21:16:00 EDT
From: n8var@juno.com (Ronald D Doyle)
To: 70511.3041@compuserve.com
Cc: n8var@juno.com, QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU, 70511.3041@compuserve.com
Subject: [28179] Re: I'm the Fox for October 8, 00:00z to 02:00z
Message-ID: <19971006.201342.10287.2.n8var@juno.com>

Thanks for the encouragement. Hope to work you Tuesday!

72 de

Ron Doyle N8VAR
Dayton, Ohio
E-Mail: N8VAR@juno.com
ARCI #9167, NORCAL #1774, QRP-L #263

Date: Mon, 06 Oct 1997 21:32:00 -0400
From: Thomas Isgro <kc8dgu@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>
To: wb5rue@stic.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28180] Re: AOLoser problem & request
Message-ID: <34399110.5928@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Kevin Muenzler wrote:
>

> Now you shouldn't give people from AOL such a hard time. After all it's just
> the Macintosh of the Internet. Compuserve is pretty user-friendly but AOL is
> user-stupid. ;) Everyone has to start somewhere and AOL certainly is a
beginner's
> level system.
>
> Kevin. WB5RUE
> wb5rue@stic.net

Hey, I was just stating a fact. I have everything I need on the 'net.
The thread was heading towards that direction, i.e. AOL and Cserve and
the rest are just interfaces to access the 'net. Back in the old days
they at least tried to help their customers. I have no bad experiences
with Compuserve, but I was sorely disappointed in AOL. And I still hear
some of the local subscribers complaining about the inability to access
the system during peak hours.

When my sister in law tried to subscribe, she couldn't log on. When she
called AOL for help they told her it was because she tried to access the
system during peak hours, wait till after midnight they told her. What
kind of customer service is that?

If you are going to offer unlimited access for $20 a month, you should
have unlimited service, not just when everyone else logs off.
--
****
****

73 de
KI8CZ
Tom Isgro

OHIO

http://www.qsl.net/ki8cz

10-X #68364   SCI #1479   QRP-L #945   ARS #203
C.A.T.T #2115   FIST 2360   NORCAL   ARRL

****
****

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 01:14:05 -0400
From: "Rich Dailey, KA8OKH" <ka8okh@som-uky.campus.mci.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28181] re: RCC
Message-ID: <3.0.16.19971007010904.26cf5278@som-uky.campus.mci.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>RCC stands for the Rag Chewers Club, an ARRL sponsered certificate to =
>encourage converstations, not just exchanges. A person calling /RCC is =
>probably announcing his desire for a moderatly long QSO with meaningful =
>discussion.

Just as challenging as qrp dxcc, I imagine <tah-dum>.   But seriously folks...

My first wallpaper. After RCC I was hooked on paper chasing.
...rich

Rich Dailey, KA8OKH <ka8okh@som-uky.campus.mci.net>
The KA8OKH / KB4NPI Web - http://www.qsl.net/ka8okh

Date: Mon, 06 Oct 1997 20:25:56 -0500
From: Jim <kj5tf@mctc.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28182] KA5T North Dakota ops
Message-ID: <34398FA4.5633@mctc.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Larry got on the air from that North Dakota camp ground early tonight
and I worked him at 0014Z - 449 RST's but it's a QSO, and a mighty fun
way to have one!
I wonder if he got up the dipole or I wrked him on his whip?
Go get him! 7.040   de Jim
ps - when I checked into the Arkansas QRP net tonite it was real fun
telling everyone about this! Nets are fun too.

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 08:54:12 +0800
From: "W. Daniel, 9V1ZV" <daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg>
To: JOppen6115@aol.com
Cc: qrp@pandora.lugs.org.sg
Subject: [28183] RE: ARK4 Final (MRF-476)
Message-ID: <34398836.pandora@pandora.lugs.org.sg>

On Mon, 6 Oct 1997 18:20:38 -0400 (EDT), JOppen6115@aol.com wrote:
> I had a couple of thoughts on the subject to add. The most economical
> replacement for this is the ones Dan's Small Parts sells. In my order, as
> mentioned in the catalog, he substituted a similar part numbered 2SC2075 (?).
> Does anyone know if this is a more robust part than the MRF-476, like the
> NTE-235 Gary mentioned?

Yes, it is more robust bust it does not have nearly as much gain as the 476.
Consequently, using it in lieu of a 476 will likely result in less output
unless you increase your drive. I had the feeling that the 2075 will be a
better substitute for a MRF475 instead.

> Thirdly, can the final be protected by a zener diode? This is commonly done
> with FET finals, and sometimes seen in bipolar transistor designs as well.
> It seems to me that this would eliminate the overvoltage, therefore protect
> the transistor. Is there any reason why this wouldn't work with the MRF-476
> and similar final transistors? I seem to recall a thread on this topic a
> year or so ago.

Yes, the topic is somewhat controversial. Some people argue that the Zener
response is too slow to save the transistor in the actual ever of
over-voltage. Other's claim that the waveform can be seen to be clipped.
The argument is that the Zener works because of the small capacitance that
it presents so that it is actually a small capacitor, rather than a zener.

I did some tests with this and confirmed that the waveform of the MFR476 at

the collector (before the filter) tends to be quite distorted, even with a matched antenna. This is severely degraded in the event of an unmatched antenna. With the degradation comes a possibility of parasitic oscillations and other unstability. This is especially so with high gain parts.

There is an article in Solid State Design that talks about this and apparently this instability is inherent when certain types of output filter configuration are used. On a hunch I tried adding small valued silver micas across the collector and ground, prior to the filter. I was abled to clean up the waveform and saw the output power go up. Not only that, with the capacitor, the finals was less likely to break out into oscillations as a result of an unmatched load. To be on the safe side, I added a Zener, which then required that I change the value of the capacitor (parallel with the Zener) to a smaller value to compensate for the Zener's capacitance.

Output was somewhat less clean than without a Zener, but not by too much. There seemed to be some clipping effect as far as I can tell, and I have not destroyed that transistor yet. I was using some really high gain VHF part in my 20m output to replace the 476 actually.

In conclusion, it seems that in some configurations, the output filters are not properly matched to the finals either and when those situations arise, you may need to use the capacitor to adjust the matching. It worked for me, and worked well indeed.

If you wish I can dig up the actual articles. They should contain much more technical information and arguments. Good luck.

73 de 9V1ZV Daniel
--

+------------+--------------------------------+
Daniel Wee	daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg
9V1ZV	
QRP-L #667	9V1ZV@amsat.org
+------------+--------------------------------+

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 17:47:04 -0700
From: gsurrency@juno.com (Gary L L Surrency)
To: JOppen6115@aol.com
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU, gsurrency@juno.com
Subject: [28184] Re: ARK4 Final (MRF-476)
Message-ID: <19971006.183938.6566.8.gsurrency@juno.com>

The 2SC2075 is a lower gain transistor than the MRF476, and although it is more rugged, it requires more Pin to produce an equivalent Pout than a

MRF476 produces with the same drive. I've got several 2SC2075 devices form Dan's and found them to produce far less output than the MRF476 with the same drive.

Protective zeners are commonly used in many rigs, but Dick Szakonyi of S&S is said to have had problems getting them to work properly in some of his designs. I have not personaly tried them on my S&S rigs.

72,

AB7MY
Gary Surrency
Chandler, AZ (Near Phoenix), QRP-L #571, AZ ScQRPions, ARRL VE

Date: Mon, 06 Oct 1997 21:38:29 -0400
From: duane <duane@flinet.com>
To: wb5rue@stic.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28185] Re: Spelling
Message-ID: <34399294.6AF348E0@flinet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I agree with Kevin, those who condem ones spelling must not have much to offer. Besides my spelling is not so good either. But all you spelling aces care to go a round of history, or math let me know. I realy hate to see others pass judgement on a person base upon a single subject matter. Many important people had problems in one or more subjects such as spelling, math, history, ...If I can read it then I must have received the message.   73's

AB4BE

Kevin Muenzler wrote:

> On ccart@dns.vidtel.com, Chris Cartwright[SMTP:ccart@dns.vidtel.com] wrote:
> > On Sun, 5 Oct 1997, Jess Gypin wrote:
> >
> > > How many of you have typed something in a hurry (antenna test) and then
> > > reread it AFTER it was posted to the list and realize that everryone
> > > must think that you are a hick because of the typos! I am going to go
> >
> > Uhh oohh! What's it say about someone who read it, and reread it, and
> > didn't notice the typo's :-/ I'll be hinding under the porch if anyone
> > needs me....

> >
> > -- Chris Cartwright,   Technical Engineer | ccart@vidtel.com   --
> > -- N3XRV   ARRL-VE   QRP WAS 20/10(w/c) | ccart@erols.com   --
> > -- QRP-L #655 NORCAL #1891 QRP-ARCI #???? | http://dns.vidtel.com/~ccart --
>
> The only reason "people" make remarks about your spelling is because they
> have nothing better to contribute to the discussion. Perhaps it gives
> them a sense of worth or something.
>
> Kevin, WB5RUE

Date: Mon, 06 Oct 1997 21:49:26
From: Gary M - W2UX <MAIL4GARY@worldnet.att.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28186] Re: Split FOX?
Message-ID: <3.0.1.16.19971006214926.37172952@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hello Jim and the gang,

I think that this is the answer. Have the FOX listen up and down a couple
KC if he is capable and just post how he going to run his pile-up the day
before. Great idea.

Gary - W2UX
==========
>Think about it this way....If people are spread out more people may be
>heard. The people that are right on frequency have a greater chance of
>being heard when a lot of others are up or down 1 kc (Khz).
>
>How about, "the fox will listen + or - ____ Khz and on frequency".
>
>   Jim N2GO
>   jskalski@acsu.Buffalo.EDU
>
>
>
>
==========
73 / 72   QRP ARCI # 8911
Gary - W2UX   QRP-L # 593

Lexington, SC   CQC #413
(EX: WA2UAX)
CW is the REAL THING!   Use it or lose it.
====================================

Date: Mon, 06 Oct 1997 22:11:08 EDT
From: n4so@juno.com (charles k brown)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28187] Parts sources/schematics
Message-ID: <19971006.090801.4383.9.n4so@juno.com>

A frequently asked question is where to obtain parts, schematics or
manuals for certain radio gear.
The ARRL Automatic Info Server has several text files
related to parts and manuals. One is parts.txt and is a
lengthy and detailed file on parts companies listed by Index. Another
file is   manuals.txt and lists where manuals can be purchased for radios
going back for the last 50 years or so.
A company still in business selling service documentation is Howard W.
Sams and Co.
1 800 428-7267
They produce PHOTOFACT, that includes:
schematics by signal flow
parts lists
waveforms and voltages
photos and locations on each board.
Saved text files are on this computer: parts.txt , manuals.txt and
sams.txt.

Ken Brown, N4SO
QTH nr Mobile, AL/ EM50tk
qrp-l #622
n4so@juno.com

Date: Mon, 06 Oct 1997 21:17:32 -0500
From: AA0QX <AA0QX@prodigy.net>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28188] FOX: Split
Message-ID: <34399BBC.767F@prodigy.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

With the Small Wonder 40, it's easy to add a second VFO. Basically just
a switch and a pot. Split can be a challenge since you don't know
exactly how far up or down you are, but it does work.

72 de Austin NE5O

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 19:39:41 -0700 (MST)
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
To: stan@cruzio.com
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28189] Re: Team Challenge Standings
Message-ID: <199710070239.TAA15363@dancris.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 05:38 PM 10/6/97 -0700, you wrote:

>Now hold on just a minute Joe. To the best of my knowledge , I was the only
>fox to work myself as a hound.. and that required a beam antenna that I
>could turn 180 degees to answer myself longpath.
>

Must be one heck of a rotator....turbine powered :^).

73,
Bob, KI7MN Chandler, AZ ScQRPion QRP-L #271, NorCal #1228, CQC #274, QRP
ARCI #8918, AK QRP #30, not in any order of importance.
33.334500N -111.87260W
http://www.dancris.com/~ki7mn
WIMPS: QSO's=19 30=19 17=0 12=0 States=15/0/0 DX=0/0/0 QSL's=7

Date: Mon, 06 Oct 1997 21:00:19 -0600
From: Jess Gypin <jessqrp@concentric.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28190] Re: Thanks from FOX#2 AE9K
Message-ID: <3439A5C3.1EB5@concentric.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Brian Cieslak wrote:

> One last recommendation. Those future foxes should practice copying
> calls in the pileup after you've caught your fox. Practice makes
> perfect.
>
> CU in the weeds!
>
> Brian AE9K
>
I have been spending a little time with TRlog in practice mode and RUFZ
for the sound blaster. I think that this is another good suggestion....

--
Jess N0TFI <><
http://www.concentric.net/~jessqrp
qrp-l #1232 CQC #92 1997 Fox

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 22:14:55 -0500
From: tahrens1@juno.com
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28191] FOX: SPLIT/NO SPLIT
Message-ID: <19971006.221455.8902.0.tahrens1@juno.com>

Hi folks - it's the pollster again.. Since one of
the most negative aspects of working split is the
exclusion of those who can't do any type of RIT, etc,
let's take a poll. This isn't a vote, cuz the Fox
can do what he wants to!

OK, here's how it'll work. If you say you'd like
to see the Fox work split, reply to me and make the
subject line say FOX: SPLIT YES. If you vote nay,
reply with the subject line FOX: SPLIT NO.

pretty easy, eh?.. betcha I get more replies than
the last one HEHE

I'll post the results by the end of the week.
Please don't bother to enclose any message,, I won't
read it.

Thanks!

Tim W5FN

Date: Mon, 06 Oct 1997 23:21:26 EDT
From: kc4mhm@juno.com (ed miller)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28192] SST-40
Message-ID: <19970925.160743.8159.1.KC4MHM@juno.com>

Gang:
     Got the new SST-40 on the air this P.M.

Heard AR station calling CQ and he answered me on my first response. He was QRO so I had good copy on him, he gave me a 599 for my 2 watts. Who could ask for any more?
  Had to change C10 to 22pf to increase side tone to where I like it. Tunning range is 7.030 to 7.039. Would rather have 7.035 to 7.043, will work on that later. Hope the fox is below 7.040 tomorrow nite.
     See ya'll tomorrow; Tally Ho.

73 de Ed

KC4MHM@juno.com

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 00:14:01 -0400
From: John Marshall <johnmars@mindspring.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28193] Re: FOXing...think of working split?
Message-ID: <l03020900b05f5af20bfb@[207.69.164.14]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hi Gang,

There have been lots of interesting comments in this thread, mostly favoring split operation. As often happens, I'm on the other side of the question. I offer the following comments:

1. We should realize that Fox pileups are pretty small potatoes compared to big-time DX affairs. Our approach is a bit more relaxed, our code speed is slower, our level of sophistication in handling pileups is generally lower, and consequently a Fox's QSO rate is lower. Even IF we could all work split, I don't think very many more QSOs would result.

2. Split uses more spectrum! And there ain't much to spare on 40. Big-time split pileups are a nightmare of QRM to non-participants. Have you ever been enjoying a QSO when all of a sudden dozens of DX chasers descend on the frequency calling some station who's down frequency a couple of KHz? Have you ever heard one of these guys ask QRL? first? If a Fox listened 1 or 2 up, the action would likely cover 2 or 3 KHz instead of a few hundred Hz. This invites QRM from our QRO bretheren, and the station most likely to get stomped would be the Fox!

3. (Tongue in cheek mode) Running split would require at least 4 stations constantly sending "up up" on the Fox's frequency. No doubt these would be the same stations who occasionally "help" Foxhunt participants by prompting for fills.

4. Many of us have trouble just matching another station's frequency, let alone getting on the correct split. True, skills can be learned and equipment can be tweaked, but why not keep it simple?

5. Let's improve the current method instead. Working pileups is a well-established art, so we can learn from the pros. Use short calls. Don't send the Fox's call, he knows it already, just sign your own. Once. Twice only if Fox is hanging back. Where you transmit and when are much more important than how many times you can punch the memory button. By all means use QSK! Fox should always send his report first. Hunters should expect it that way and should already know what it is (except maybe the report).

Now let's go out there and have some fun!

72,
John Marshall, KU4AF
Pittsboro, NC

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 00:13:31 -0400 (EDT)
From: Kr0i2@aol.com
To: ten-tec@contesting.com
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28194] For Sale - cleaning house
Message-ID: <971007001107_553036460@emout20.mail.aol.com>

Hi gang,

My apartment doesn't have the room the house did so would
like to reduce my equipment inventory. Having the following
for sale:

1. Ten-Tec Model 544 (digital version of Triton IV) $250
2. Ten-Tec Century 22 with built-in Curtis 8044 keyer, #226
    calibrator and #1179 circuit breaker $330
3. Ten-Tec Argonaut II with #701 hand mike mint condx $750
4. Ten-Tec Delta II with #705 desk mike, #303 fan kit (rare) and
    #936 matching power supply. Looks like new. $900 for package
5. Heathkit HW-8 $150
6. Heathkit HW-9 with unbuilt WARC band kit, PSA-9 power
    supply, SP-99 speaker and HD-1422 Antenna noise bridge $295
7. Yaesu FT-840 like new $695
8. Kenwood TM-455A 432mHZ all-mode like new $525
9. MFJ 989C 3kw antenna tuner $200
10. Ventronics VC-300 300w antenna tuner $75
11. MFJ 407B electronic keyer $25
12. Icom IC-756 with 250hz filter, like new $1750

Shipping is not included in above prices. Please respond
direct to kr0i2@aol.com. Will sell either the Delta II or the
Icom-756, whichever goes first. I will keep the other.

73 de Mac, KR0I QRP ARCI 3227 QRP-L 1037

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 23:23:11 -0500 (CDT)
From: Mike N9IVO <steam@megsinet.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28195] Heathkit list?
Message-ID: <m0xIRAt-003uZiC@megsinet.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

My name's Mike from Chicago.

I know many qrp fans are also Heathkit fans. Does anybody know of
a Heathkit info/trading list? Any info would be appreciated!

Thanks...


```
                          \\"""//
                           (o o)
 +---------------------oOO--(_)--OOo-------------------------+
 : Mike Pender     Chicago, Illinois. U.S.A.                  :
 : STEAM@MEGSINET.NET or N9IVO@AMSAT.ORG                      :
```

: FAX: 708-795-7003   :
: Amateur Radio Callsign: N9IVO W.A.S DXCC 10X-66444   :
: AMA 529703
: I.B.E.W. Local 9 Lineman 17 years   :
+---------------------.oooO---Oooo.-------------------------+
                       (   ) (   )
                        \ (   ) /
                         \ _) (_/

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 00:24:53 -0400 (EDT)
From: Kr0i2@aol.com
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28196] Ten-Tec List address
Message-ID: <971007002429_-1831950306@emout04.mail.aol.com>

Just tried to send message to Ten-Tec list using

ten-tec@contesting.com

Message was rejected. Does anyone have the correct
address for the list? Please reply direct to kr0i2@aol.com

Thanks, Mac, KR0I

Date: Mon, 06 Oct 1997 20:23:57 -0800
From: "Jim, Nancy, Juliann, and Issei" <larsennc@alaska.net>
To: QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28197] AL7FS - My 1st Spartan Sprint
Message-ID: <3439B95C.6001@alaska.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, that was fun. Thank you.

I ran 4-5 watts from my QRP+, total weight was 6.8 for the station.
I worked 16 stations on 20 mtrs and 6 on 40 mtrs.

Absolute score = 16X2+6X1= 38 points
Score per pound = 38/6.8 = 5.59 pts/lb

SWL on 40 with W9UQB, K0EVZ, VA3JJ, W9UZB, W6ZH but no contact with them.

Lowest power reported was K4GT in GA at 1 watt.

There were good signals on 20 meters for the 1st hour for me and then it died. Results? Read on.
20 mtrs:
k6pzb ca
w6su ca
kf6cta ca
ko6ka ca
ks4l al
k4gt ga 1 watt
w9sul mn
n0it mo
w7qqq az
kq0i ia
ab7my az
kc5aik ar
w9uqb az
k0si mo
w0hmd mo
ve5wf sk
 40 mtr:
w7zoi or
w7qqq az
k7vyy ut
ab7tk id
ve7dsn bc
k1mg ca

22 QSOs and 13 S/P/C (yes, I know that doesn't matter for the sprint but it does to me!!)

Thanks, again.

73, Jim, AL7FS
--
Jim Larsen
Anchorage, Alaska
Acupressure Anchorage
AL7FS   ex-WA0LPK / KL7
2 meter WAS #36
Vision VR40 Recumbent Bike
http://www.servcom.com/worcester/chat.htm QRP Chat

Date: Mon, 6 Oct 1997 22:08:09 -0700
From: "Richard E. Fisher" <ki6sn@pe.net>
To: "'QRP-L'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: "'Richard Fisher, PE.net'" <KI6SN@pe.net>
Subject: [28198] Spartan Sprint Reporting Glitch
Message-ID: <01BCD2A4.756EDAC0@ki6sn>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Some operators who participated in ARS' Spartan Sprint have reported =
problems submitting their scores and soapbox comments using the =
organization's website system.

Apparently there is a URL glitch, and our intrepid webmaster (AA7QU) is =
globetrotting and unable to troubleshoot.

If participants would be so kind to submit their scores and comments to =
the following e-mail address, it would be greatly appreciated:=20

KI6SN@aol.com

On behalf of the whole ARS crew, sincere apologies for the goofy web =
program. We'll make every effort to get it fixed for the November SP.

Vy 72,

Richard Fisher, KI6SN

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 01:33:53 -0400
From: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
To: "INTERNET:larsennc@alaska.net" <larsennc@alaska.net>, "W.D. (Doc) Lindsey/
K0EVZ" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>, QRP-L Discussion Group <QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28199] AL7FS - My 1st Spartan Sprint
Message-ID: <199710070137_MC2-230D-8A69@compuserve.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Disposition: inline

Jim:

Regretfully, I am on a business trip...and was tied up in unavoidable seminar sessions until nearly 0430Z (can you believe it?). So the Bottom Line is that I was just not in there at all tonight. Drats!

However I do have along a Sierra at 2 watts out. Finally got up a W3EDP 84-footer with the two counterpoises. Hope it will work FB. Tomorrow afternoon I will try to put up a dipole and maybe even the SLV/W6MMA. Tuner will be the ZM-1. Have the MFJ259 analyser, fortunately.

So I hope to get into the FOXhunt tomorrow. But this will mean trying to sneak out of the seminars early. We'll see. If you happen to hear me, please give a holler. I hope to get on the air tomorrow afternoon on 20, also. Good luck in the FOXhunt.

72/73,
--Doc/K0EVZ qrp-l 861 norcal 2050 cqc 414 ARS 311 FISTS 3868 mn-qrp 19
nj-qrp 69 ak/qrp 139 AR QRP 73 ARCI 9398 ARRL WAS 48/38
DXCC 53/42 <>< FOX Total 10/6/97 2 of 2 + one N/T+ FOX.

OMNI V Sierra Argo 515 Norcal 40a SW-40 49er 38S Mercury Paddles
Emtech ZM-1 MFJ 259 MFJ 941D GAP TNT/2 Windom SLV/W6MMA G5RV
Autek QF-1 RS DSP-40

"Things should be as simple as possible, but no simpler"--A. Einstein

---

Date: Mon, 06 Oct 1997 01:46:11 -0800
From: WSombeck@t-online.de (Wolfgang Sombeck)
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28200] unsubscribe qrp-list
Message-ID: <m0xISTA-0003D6C@fwd10.btx.dtag.de>

Net-Tamer V 1.10 Palm Top - Test Drive

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 01:30:18 -0400
From: "Daniel L. Evans" <dlevans@hsonline.net>
To: QRP-l@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [28201] Re: W1FB Review of JOY OF QRP
Message-ID: <3.0.1.16.19971007013018.209f8b96@mail.hsonline.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

- clip -
many
>> newcomers fail after having grown used to
>> high-power operation with elaborate
>> antennas.
>
>I'm a little surprised to hear that last
>sentence. Yes, QRP is different from QRO,
>but what's he getting at about antennas?
>
- clip -

Please excuse the ignorance of a "newbie, QRP wannabe" but the way I interpret that paragraph, I believe that W1FB was referring not to the newcomers antennas, but to the lack of "operating skills". Lets face it, if you are the only station the dx can hear, then he is probably going to come back to you. So if you are used to running QRO, then you may not develope the required operating skills to be successful at QRP.

That's my nickels worth!

Dan, N9RLA.....EM78

Dan L. Evans [N9RLA]
dlevans@hsonline.net

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 03:05:10 -0500
From: "Owen 'OJ' Quarles" <k1oj@swbell.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28202] FOXII-N-DILLOS
Message-ID: <3439ED36.73B8@swbell.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Howdy Y'all
Just another reminder on the following event. Also a word to the wise..

All you AZ and CA boys have fun with this little Fox compatition now
because after the big Armadillo event is over the TX boys will jump in
with both boots and leave you all in the dust......
Have fun y'all
CU---OJ---K1OJ
TEXAS YAHOO
..
==========

1997 TEXAS ARMADILLO CHASE

SPONSOR: TEXAS YAHOOS

WHEN: 2100Z OCTOBER 26 - 0100Z OCTOBER 27 (4 HOURS)

BANDS: 10 - 160 METERS (NO WARC BANDS)

MODE: CW ONLY

CATAGORIES: SINGLE OP ONLY
HIGH PWR = 1W - 5W
LOW PWR = <1W

EXCHANGE: RST - S/P/C - NAME
NAME MUST BE THAT BY WHICH YOU ARE COMMONLY KNOWN.

POINTS: QSOs WITH TEXAS STATIONS COUNT 5 POINTS. QSOs WITH NON-TEXAS
STATIONS COUNT 1 POINT. STATIONS MAY BE WORKED ON MULTIPLE BANDS
FOR QSO POINTS AND MULTIPLIERS.

MULTIPLIERS: EACH UNIQUE FIRST LETTER OF THE NAME RECIEVED COUNTS AS 1
MULTIPLIER AND COUNT ONCE OVERALL. EACH S/P/C COUNTS 1
MULTIPLIER. VE/W DO NOT COUNT AS COUNTRY MULTS.
HIGH POWER COUNTS X1, LOW POWER COUNTS X2.

BONUS: WORK KR5DX FOR 3000 BONUS POINTS ONCE OVERALL.

SCORING: TOTAL QSO-POINTS X S/P/C X NAMES X POWER MULT + KR5DX BONUS =
FINAL SCORE.

LOGS: DEADLINE IS 30 DAYS POST CONTEST.
SEND LOGS, SUMMARY SHEET AND NAMES SHEET TO;

OWEN QUARLES K1OJ
11126 RIPPLING MEADOWS DR.
HOUSTON, TX. 77064

E-MAIL: k1oj@swbell.net

--

OWEN'OJ'QUARLES   <k1oj@swbell.net>
HOUSTON, TEXAS   QRP-L #732
ARCI #9492 AR QRP #64 CQC #476
  CW OR CB, ITS YOUR CHOICE!

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 10:05:05 +0200
From: Paolo Sassoli <sassoli@ii1wh10.settimo.italtel.it>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28203] 20 mt QRP schematic needed
Message-ID: <3439ED31.A7BE462D@ii1wh10.settimo.italtel.it>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/mixed; boundary="------------17D3BC7C91A1CF01B9EB2989"

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.
--------------17D3BC7C91A1CF01B9EB2989
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi to all.

Can anyone help me?

I bought a crystal on 14.060 MHz during a hamfest, with the idea of
building a 20 mt QRP RTX around it;
unfortunately I have not found a schematic yet (I was looking for
something like 38S or 49er but for 20 mt).

Does anyone have some suggestions (web pages too) or can anyone send me
something interesting?

Thanks in advance.

Paolo

--------------17D3BC7C91A1CF01B9EB2989
Content-Type: text/x-vcard; charset=us-ascii; name="vcard.vcf"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Description: Card for Paolo Sassoli
Content-Disposition: attachment; filename="vcard.vcf"

begin: vcard

fn: Paolo Sassoli
n: Sassoli;Paolo
org: Italtel spa
email;internet: sassoli@ii1wh10.settimo.italtel.it
x-mozilla-cpt: ;0
x-mozilla-html: FALSE
version: 2.1
end: vcard

--------------17D3BC7C91A1CF01B9EB2989--

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 01:28:32 -0700
From: talljazz@teleport.com (Dan Presley)
To: k0gjx@classic.msn.com
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28204] RE: Split FOX?
Message-ID: <v01530500b05fa0e6a6ee@[206.163.125.71]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>Scott & gang
>
>Split, by all means YES, either that or we should go back to xtal controled
>transmitters....
>
>The april 97 issue of qrp quarterly shows me that most contesters are using a
>lot of ts,ic,tt and ft gear (is this qrp !!!) Why dont we get with the
>program and use real qrp rigs!! They should be mfj, norcal, ohr,emtech, sw and
>for sure HOMEBREW!! Running a 1or 2kilo buck rig at 5w to me, is still UNFAIR
>to those who dont. 73 chuck
>
Sorry, but this doesn't fly at all. I have both Ten Tec and 4 homebrew/kit
rigs, and they all have their place in a qrp shack. QRP is an attitude, not
who has the right gear.
Dan N7CQR

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 05:41:18 -0400
From: Cleve Irby <cirby@bellsouth.net>

To: talljazz@teleport.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28205] Re: Split FOX?
Message-ID: <343A03BD.20FEF03F@bellsouth.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello Dan

You term, "QRP is an attitude". Could this be interpreted as "QRP is a skill and a unique challenge?"

73 de Cleve, NV4O

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 07:04:40 -0400
From: Paul Helbert <phelbert@rica.net>
To: duane@flinet.com, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28206] Re: Spelling
Message-ID: <343A1748.B424E812@rica.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

You are right, but 'tis a waste of time to try to convince the spellers (and a waste of bandwidth to do it on QRP-L. This belongs in Rec.language.conformity.nitpick.annal.) By the way, the latest versions of Netscape have spell checkers built in. I try to always use it, for it finds as many typos as spellos.

73,

Paul, Wv3j

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 07:33:13 -0400
From: Paul Helbert <phelbert@rica.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [28207] WTB: 38 Special kit
Message-ID: <343A1DF8.6E7BCE6E@rica.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hey gang,

I got here late and all the 38 Specials were gone. Some folks bought extras and I've already seen one of these offered for sale on the list. (I got no response from my offer to buy that one.)

Whatsay?

Paul, Wv3j
540 896-7107

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 08:08:37 -0400 (EDT)
From: "Scott Rosenfeld [NF3I]" <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
To: qrp-l <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, Laurel ARC <larc-l@webtrek.com>
Subject: [28208] LDG GROUP PURCHASE!!! (incl. NEW 4:1 balun box!)
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.95.971007080510.2158A-100000@w3eax.umd.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Are you considering buying an LDG autotuner (AT-11/150w or QRP/20w), either as a kit or pre-assembled???

As I did thrice before, I am arranging a group buy.

These are superb, quick-acting antenna tuners with discrete capacitors and inductors. They work (I've used one myself). Details are in Jan 1996 QST.

I have no interest in LDG (duuh), but I have gotten to know Dwayne & Jennifer in the course of the last two group purchases and would like to once again mete the two entities (LDG and QRP-L).

	Normal pricing	Group purchase price (10-25 orders)
AT-11 kit	$150	$127.50
QRP kit	$100	$ 85.00
Case - AT-11	$ 30 (no discount available)	
Case - QRP	$ 25 (no discount available)	

AT-11 assembled w/case - $190 instead of $220
QRP assembled w/case - $139 instead of ???? (more than that)

Balun box kit! $ 25 $ 20.00

The balun box is a balun, with an SO-239 on one end, and banana posts on the other. Handles 200 watts, and is ONLY sold as a kit.

UNANNOUNCED! Be the first on your block to have one! In aluminum case...

IF INTERESTED:

Call, or better, e-mail me with

NAME
ADDRESS
PHONE
WHAT YOU WANT, and HOW MANY

I'll figure out prices after we get enough orders...

Thanks!!! Start ordering!!!

I'll start asking for $$$ in about a week. Once money comes in, I'll place the (now growing steadily) order, get the stuff, box it up, and ship it out. Wow, is this ever fun!!!

* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 *
*** 6m 80 grids worked on 8 watts *** HF 140 cfmd * QRP-L #147 ***
** QRP ARCI #9054 ** DXCC/WAS/WAC *** 100% dipole powered HF/6m **
*** 301-549-1022 h / 301-982-1015 w ** Life is one big hamfest ***

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 09:00:53 -0400
From: Paul Helbert <phelbert@rica.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28209] Re: WTB: 38 Special kit
Message-ID: <343A3285.A08332C0@rica.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks gang, I found and bought one. Now let's get these things built
and on the air!

Paul Helbert wrote:

> Hey gang,
>
> I got here late and all the 38 Specials were gone. Some folks bought
> extras and I've already seen one of these offered for sale on the
> list.
> (I got no response from my offer to buy that one.)
>
> Whatsay?
>
> Paul, Wv3j
> 540 896-7107

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 09:29:21 -0400 (EDT)
From: "Scott Rosenfeld [NF3I]" <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
To: qrp-l <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28210] An introduction to Mr. Slim
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.95.971007090933.2551B-100000@w3eax.umd.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

"Who's Mr. Slim?" you ask...

I haven't heard Slim for about five years now, but

Slim is familiar to many of us, and is a playful sort.

Slim likes masquerading as someone he's not...

...and sometimes he's a she!!!

"Ms. Slim!"

Slim can really excite you!

In the end, Slim only disappoints, and doesn't discriminate.

Slim's not been heard for quite a while, but when the sunspots start comin' back, he shows up in the most amazing places.

Slim can be in DOZENS of places at ONE TIME!!!

Slim is pretty amazing!

So who "Slim," anyway?

Slim is created by our thirst for DX QSOs.
Slim craves attention and loves to be on the DX end of pileups (not unlike the FOXes!)
Slim would probably be a good ham operator if not "Slim."
You don't know Slim's Slim until Slim slips up.

WHO IS SLIM, YOU STUPID NARRATOR??? TELL ME ALREADY!!!

by example:

On 20 CW this morning, XU1ZD (which I know to be Kampuchea) was calling CQ. He wasn't very strong, and got into a QSO with someone (I tried, too, as I've never worked an XU, without success). Said he was 14, and his name was Tang. He then sent his QTH as "Nothern China."

UH OH!!!! SLIM SLIPPED UP!!!!

Slim would've been a "BY" or similar if actually in China, and should've given his QTH as "Kampuchea" or "Cambodia" if actually in XU-land.

>From the callers...was heard..."SLIM SLIM SLIM"...

By U.S. law, amateurs are not allowed to work non-amateur stations without authority of the FCC, but this brings up another point...

If the guy may or may not be a Slim, and you can't tell for sure,

"WFWL."

(Work First, Worry Later)

Happy QRP DXing!

* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 *
*** 6m 80 grids worked on 8 watts *** HF 140 cfmd * QRP-L #147 ***
** QRP ARCI #9054 ** DXCC/WAS/WAC *** 100% dipole powered HF/6m **

*** 301-549-1022 h / 301-982-1015 w ** Life is one big hamfest ***

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 13:27:58 +0000
From: SEAB&SHARON LYON <SSLYON@worldnet.att.net>
To: tahrens1@juno.com, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28211] FOX: SPLIT YES
Message-ID: <19971007132756.AAA13094@LOCALNAME>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

... BUT NOT UNTIL WE GIVE EVERYONE A CHANCE TO MODIFY RIGS
TO PROVIDE THE MINIMUM RIT REQ'D.... PERHAPS 2 KHZ.
IT'S PROBABLY NOT FAIR TO DO IT THIS YEAR, AND BY WAITING
WE'LL GIVE MORE FOLKS TO RAISE FRUSTRATION ENUFF TO INSIST
ON THE CHANGE!. 72 =S=
"Seab" Lyon -- AA1MY
Bethel, CT; USA FN-31-HJ
ARCI #9253; QRP-L # 574
ARRL; QCWA; C.A.R.A.

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 08:02:20 -0600
From: "Rattray, Bruce" <Rattray@siast.sk.ca>
To: "'qrp-l@LeHigh.edu'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28212] split
Message-ID: <ABB04875E11AD01191A40000F83092BE3B3EA6@stone.siast.sk.ca>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

I have read the thread and various points made about split operation for
Fox Hunts...simply put, "It ain't broke" so why try to "fix" it?...
...I'm having a ball with the way things are and my enjoyment level is
very high...I would suggest we don't go to split operation for now as it
all seems to work very well indeed...but, having said that, I also
realize that as the qrp ranks swell we might be forced to change the way
we do things...
...I have to admit that one of the reasons I joined the QRP gang was to
put new interest in the hobby for me (which it certainly is doing!) and
to get away from the very high level of competition that other aspects
of the hobby have evolved to...instead of roaring along life's road in

5th gear with the pedal to the metal all the time, I like having shifted down to a much lower gear which gives me time to "smell the flowers", the learning curve is "on" again and I'm ENJOYING every bit of this qrp level of the hobby...I'm at the point in life where I want simplicity, not never-ending complexity...
...I have a hard time expressing my feelings about things but I hope you "get my drift" here...as I've gone through life, I've seen and been involved in many enterprises that while they were "small" things went along with hardly any trouble at all and most everyone was happy...life was good... but as soon as they became larger, the problems quickly became larger and people were no longer truly happy...and in many cases becoming "large" spelled the end of the enterprise...Qrp;the name says it all!...and so it goes...72 - Bruce (VE5RC) QRP-L#886
"QRP! Hows sweet it is!"

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 07:12:31 -0700 (MST)
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28213] RE: Fox Split
Message-ID: <199710071412.HAA06344@dancris.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I say let the fox decide whether to work splits or not. If he/she chooses to do so, let the hunters decide whether to work him/her or not. When the dust settles, and the scores are in, we'll see which way works best.

This is supposed to be fun, right?

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 07:16:22 -0700 (MST)
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28214] KB7MBI QSL Card
Message-ID: <199710071416.HAA06570@dancris.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I've just gotten a look at Alan's QSL Card for tne N/T fox hunt. If you didn't catch him, you've got a chance to do so every Sunday evening 0200-0400Z. You gotta get one of these cards.

(Alan, you better limber up your writing hand, you should get lots of contacts)

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 10:25:28 EDT
From: kc5aik@juno.com (Larry H Sykes)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Message-ID: <19971007.092420.6799.6.kc5aik@juno.com>

I too, was late for the 38 special. Does anyone have one availiable?
This will be my first qrp rig, comments appreciated, as I have never
put any type of kit together. OM 59 but willing to learn.

Thanks all
Larry H. Sykes

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 10:43:05 -0400
From: Sam Mohan <SMohan@HNS.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28216] Re: Need all the mods to Pixie circuit
Message-ID: <343A4A79.2F67@HNS.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks a lot for all those suggestions. Looks like Ed WE6W's home page
is the best site which has it all. The URL is http://www.qsl.net/we6w.
Jim W7LS thinks Far ckts is going to come up with a new pcb for pixie2
with W1FB mods thrown it, but he isn't sure. Does anybody know anything
about this new pcb?

GL 72 Sam N3UTM
--
mailto:SMohan@HNS.com   [Work] 301.428.5500 Extn 3261
mailto:SMohan@Juno.com   [Home] 301.977.4374

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 07:55:54 -0700 (MST)
From: Jack Meadows <jackmead@getnet.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28217] FOX: "Ole Coots" Team Announcement

Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.96.971007074124.13513B-100000@gn2.getnet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

We are five! The Ole Coots team is officially active and on the
hunt. We have ears from Florida across Texas and all the way to
California. Hearing is worth at least ten dB of copper or
aluminum any day! Our prestigious members are:

Bill KK4KF FL
Gary AA6R CA
Lynn KJ3V AL
Bill K5ZTY TX
Jack W7QQQ AZ

Oscar Wilde:
"The English country gentleman galloping after a fox -- the unspeakable
in full pursuit of the uneatable."

Ha!
Best regards to all,
Jack W7QQQ

   The Team Challenge
>
> The Team Challenge is the one where any 3-5 Hunters
> can join forces. The Team score is a running total,
> taken from the total number of Team pelts bagged to
> date, and divided by the number of Team members. Good
> way to gang up with your pals across the continent.
> Maybe even hedge your bet and pick a friend outside
> of your normal Fox coverage. ;-)
>
> There are already two Teams running loose, with more
> about to be announced. So pick a few Hunter friends,
> join forces, and let me know ASAP! Nice thing is that
> if you get skunked, you can still root for your fellow
> Team critters. :)
>
> Please note that these "events" are *totally* separate
> from the Fox Hunt. They use Fox Hunt data, but should
> not interfere with the Hunt in any way. If they do,
> they're history.
>

> That's the story folks. The rest is up to you. Now if
> you'll excuse me, I've been training some badgers to
> love the taste of coax. Figure I let a few go in CA,
> TX and NV and suddenly Team AB7*T* will shortly be in
> lead.... ;-)
>
> Cheers de AB7TT,
>
> -Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPions (Phoenix)
>
> "'Fraid nobody around here, understands my potato;
> Think I'm only a Spudboy, looking for a real tomato." -DEVO
>
>

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 09:56:00 -0600
From: ji3m@maxwell.com (James R. Duffey)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28218] Fox Hunt Evolution and Nostalgia (long)
Message-ID: <v02130501b05ff6695978@[192.31.66.158]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Note - None of the following comments are meant to be critical of individuals or comments that individuals have made on the list. Rather I am trying to deal with my nostalgia for the Fox Hunt of years gone by and my concerns for what it has become these days.

I note from the large number of comments I have read about the first two Fox Hunts and from personal observation that the Fox Hunt of years past has evolved from a congenial activity night into a highly competitive sprint. I feel some sadness at the passing of the original Fox Hunt and the personna surrounding it.

The original purpose of the Fox Hunt was to encourage QRPers to get on the air during the week. This was done in the spirit of friendly challenges. This is still a valid purpose, but seems to have taken back seat to the competitive aspects of Fox Hunting.

I like it when the Fox comes back with "tnx Jim" or "tu duffey". I appreciate the personal touch and I think it builds comaraderie among the list members. But if Brian drops it the next time around to get more QSOs,

then the personal touch is gone, and so, I think, is some of the appeal of the Fox Hunt.

Each Fox is an individual and I like dealing with them at that level. Pile ups have become the rule rather than the exception for the Fox Hunt. We have seen lots of advice on how to deal with pile ups, and how the Fox should behave in a pile up. Let the Foxes deal with the pileups in the way they feel is best. That way the hunters get the benefit of dealing with a number of different operating styles and practice with dealing with real DX pileups. But it takes awhile to get the foxes style down, particularly if you are working with a weak Fox signal. In two hours with varying propagation someone may never tumble to the fact that the Fox is operating split and continue to call on his frequency. None the less, from what I have observed, the behavior of QRPer in the Fox pileups is better than the typical DX pileup, and I have observed few instances of poor manners.

I don't want to lose the personal touch by forcing all the foxes to operate the same manner. Nor would I like to see a beginning operator whose skills are not finely honed miss a contact with the Fox because he cannot match the hectic pace a Fox thinks he needs to maintain to be competitive. I am concerned that the only hunters who get the Fox will be the seasoned competitors and the beginners will not want to deal with the frustration. Chuck's Novice/Tech Plus hunts have restored some of the attractions of Fox being a good intro into QRPing.

Why should I express these feelings? I owe a lot to the Fox Hunt. It got me started in QRP. I found out about the list on the Antennas Usenet group in November 95 and subscribed. I had always been interested in QRP but like many other activities and interests I had never pursued it. I read about the Fox Hunt and after a couple of weeks I thought "Hey I can just crank down my TS850 and see what I can do". Well I did and worked the Fox on my first try. He said "congrats you have just caught the Fox". In addition to the exchange, which I don't think had a fixed format in those days, I think he also gave the rig he was using and antenna. A good positive experience that got me hooked on QRP. I will have to dig through my log to see who it was and thank him. I am not sure that I would be so favorably impressed with the Fox Hunt as my first QRP activity today.

The Fox Hunt is also responsible for teaching me persistence. I have sat at the rig for two hours and not heard a peep out of the Fox. I have sat at the rig for 1 hour and 45 minutes only to have the fox rise up out of the noise and be workable for only 5 minutes. The reward for this? Well I was the only station west of the Mississippi that the Fox worked that night.

I have made several good friends directly as a result of the Fox Hunt, Paul, NA5N, and Tim, K5OI among them. I still treasure the first e-mail I got from Paul, "Jim can you tell me what this Fox Hunt stuff is all about?".

My appeal is this. Please leave as much of the personal touch in the Fox Hunt as you can. I am as competitive as the next person, but I am willing to forego my contact if it means someone else gets a better experience out of it. The chase is nearly as much fun as the contact. Vow to work another station after or before the Fox Hunt. I had a nice chat with N6WG after the hunt the other night and with K5OI before his hunt.

I don't expect that we will return to the days when we would work the Fox more than once because he was calling CQ for 20 minutes without a reply and sounded lonely. Neither can we work him more than once at varying power levels or on different rigs as we used to.

Thanks for letting me rant and rave. Cheaper therapy I cannot get. - Duffey KK6MC/5

James R Duffey KK6MC/5 DM65
30 Casa Loma Road
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 12:06:28 -0400 (EDT)
From: Chris Cartwright <ccart@dns.vidtel.com>
To: QRP Reflector <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28219] Re: FOXII-N-DILLOS
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.93.971007115431.1189D-100000@dns.vidtel.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Tue, 7 Oct 1997, Owen 'OJ' Quarles wrote:

> 1997 TEXAS ARMADILLO CHASE
> WHEN: 2100Z OCTOBER 26 - 0100Z OCTOBER 27 (4 HOURS)

This is when UTC is real handy, 26-OCT-97 02:00 *EDT* (which is 26-OCT-97 0600Z) is when we "stop time" for an hour to get back to EST, and just prior to the Armadillo Chase. Thus making us 3-landers a (-5) instead of a (-4) for unix types. So I might actually be early for this one.

I got "UTCed" out of the first novice fox of the season. Lessee... Saturday is actually Sunday... Carry the three, divide by one, add the reciprocal of...

Actually it's not that bad, set one clock/watch/sundial to UTC and leave

it alone! Then consult that one for contests and conversions. 72

-- Chris Cartwright,   Technical Engineer | ccart@vidtel.com   --
-- N3XRV   ARRL-VE   QRP WAS 20/10(w/c) | ccart@erols.com   --
-- QRP-L #655 NORCAL #1891 QRP-ARCI #???? | http://dns.vidtel.com/~ccart --

---

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 08:54:05 -0700
From: w7rfm@juno.com (John E Hirsch)
To: tahrens1@juno.com
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28220] Re: FOX: SPLIT/NO SPLIT
Message-ID: <19971007.085408.2702.0.w7rfm@juno.com>

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 11:42:15 -0400
From: BWHITTEM@mailgw.sanders.lmco.com
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28221] my wife wants to be fox
Message-ID: <43A56E10.1299@mailgw.sanders.lmco.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Description: cc:Mail note part

hey guys
my wife wants to be a fox (she is one already) she has 0 cw
contacts but may give it a try. please send her
encouragement at n1ozf@juno.com i can be there to help her
out. she'll be slow but it will give her some positive cw
experience.
thanks
barry
wb1edi qrp-l #51

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 12:34:43 -0400
From: "Watson R Gabriel Jr" <wgabriel@duke-energy.com>
To: ji3m@maxwell.com, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [28222] Re: Fox Hunt Evolution and Nostalgia (long)
Message-ID: <85256529.005A3FF8.00@dpcmail.dukepower.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Duffey could not have said it better. Being rather new to QRP, this group, et al, I was originally thinking that the FOX hunt was not a contest. However, from many of the posts that I see, it is pretty obvious that it IS, at least it is to a lot of folks.

I am sure that I will still participate for the joy of it, to work some of the guys in this group, to improve my CW and other ops, to see how my 5W and antennas will work in the propagation at the moment, and to catch a few more states on QRP. However, for the point totals and bragging rights, I could care less.

Thanks, Watson/WB4EXW

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 11:46:12
From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28223] Isotron 160
Message-ID: <3.0.1.16.19971007114612.1a4ff462@mailhost.ncia.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Howdy,

I hooked up the Isotron 160 I picked up this last weekend at the 'fest. It sort of works. Compared to a 40 M dipole, signals are way, way down on the Isotron. Now to be fair, I have no idea where the Isotron is tuned to. I imagin it is very narrow down on 160, so unless I happen to stumble on a signal exactly where the Isotron is tuned to, that might be expected.

So, I guess to be effective, I need to pick a frequency to tune the Isotron to and not wander far from it. My inital impression is this is not a good qrp antenna. At least not on 160.

BTW, this unit has no marking to indicate it might be a commercial unit. In fact it has a very home-brew look to it, which makes me wonder if it is counterfit. Only the way the ends of the mounting PVC pipe are flared make me think it is a real one. Or do they all have this look to them?

Looks to me that I could build one in a couple of hours and have one that looks at least as good as this one.

73,
Steve, KD1JV....In the White Mountains of New Hampshire

"Melt Solder"

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 09:38:01 -0500 (CDT)
From: Bill Morris Denton <bdenton@tenet.edu>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28224] MFJ Lamp replacement
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.96.971007090415.25875B-100000@Joyce-Perkins.tenet.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi Gang, have you agonized over replacing those goofy little lamps in the MFJ line of tuners and meters? The little lamp, I guess you have to buy from MFJ slides down into the meter back. I have more of Mr. Jue's componets that I like to admit, and I am alway having to replace those lamps. I've jury rigged various lamps that worked but nothing that would easy to replace. I was cleaning out some old parts bins at work and came across these old timy pilot light holders. The kind that use bayonet type bulbs. Every old radio know to man had this type of pilot lamp holder. A little light when off in my head, this was the answer to the bulb replacemt problem in the MFJ stuff. With the holders in hand I stopped off at the auto parts store and picked up some 12v bayonet instrument lamps. I think these are the type used in in radio dials or glove compartments. At $1.98 for a pair, I picked up 4 and was on my way to give it a try. My first effort was on a MFJ 815B watt meter. After opening the cover I found that the two screws that hold the meter in place was a good place to install the pilot lamp holders. I unscrewed the two screws and put the lamp holder under the little tab that holds the meter in place. With this done I did the necessary wiring and installed the lamps. Perfect! The back of the meter is opaque so the meter is lit very evenly and looks like the original. Now all I have to do to replace the lamps is pop the cover and snap in a spare bulb. NO SOLDERING.
I was suprised to see that Radio Shack didn't have these holders but I'm sure that most of your local electronics houses would have them.
My guess is that my lamp changing is basically over since I have converted to a automative type lamp, but If I do it will be a snap.

My tip for the day.

Bill W5SB, now know in these parts as "Diller Bill"

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 11:15:47 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Thomas J. Whalen" <whalen@swcp.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28225] 38s wanted
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.971007110822.19894A-100000@kitsune.swcp.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hello QRPers! My buddy just ordered the fancy enclosure for the
38s, and a 38s. The enclosure is on the way, but the 38's are sold out.
He is looking for a 38s kit since he now has the enclosure.
Thanks, Tom WB5QYT

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 13:24:01 -0400 (EDT)
From: Kr0i2@aol.com
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28226] TenTec Address
Message-ID: <971007132152_-898374470@emout02.mail.aol.com>

Thanks to all who pointed out that the HYPHEN was
not needed in the address I had used for the message.
When corrected, it went right through!

Thanks again, Mac, KR0I

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 17:39:11 -0700
From: Harvey Hetland <n6mm@earthlink.net>
To: QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28227] Re: Split FOX?
Message-ID: <343AD62F.2835@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

With all the dialog about whether or not the fox should elect to use

split I realized that many of the foxes have been operating split on at least a small scale. It is instinctive for me track the receive frequency of a station I am chasing whether a fox or a DX station. I will also try to call on the skirt of the pileup in order to gain an advantage.

Over the past two seasons of fox hunting I have worked several of the foxes several hundred Hertz (approaching 1 kHz) off frequency, which represents a scaled down split operation. The option to call for a split operation up one or two belongs to the fox; and the fox's judgement would best be based on the size of the pileup, the impact on others using the band, how well he is copying calls and whether the pileup is keeping their calls short (please fellows, no long calls). I would also suggest that the fox operate simplex as soon as the pileup is worked down to a reasonable level to minimize bandwidth and to provide access to those that have rigs that lack RIT.

I view the possible option of some split operation as a way to keep the foxhunts enjoyable and friendly. Like pileups for rare DX I would have no difficulty walking away from a messy or badly managed pileup, because I am going to enjoy this hobby. I can always finish another QRP rig, hi.

73, Harvey, N6MM   (Fox hunter from W6BAB)

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 97 10:56:16 -0700 (PDT)
From: John Watrous <jwatrous@groucho.santarosa.edu>
To: "Jim, Nancy, Juliann, and Issei" <larsennc@alaska.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28228] Re: AL7FS - My 1st Spartan Sprint
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9710071018.B25842-0100000@groucho.santarosa.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

You did a lot better than I did with 10 QSOs on 40m, 3 on 20m and 2 on 80m.
Nice to hear Alaska this time. Hope you'll be back in November.

John

John Watrous, K6PZB
CM88nk Graton CA
ARS #211
jwatrous@groucho.santarosa.edu

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 13:05:53 -0500
From: "Kevin Muenzler - WB5RUE" <wb5rue@stic.net>
To: <kc8dgu@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>
Cc: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28229] Re: AOLoser problem & request
Message-ID: <19971007180556281.AAA241@muenzlerk.uthscsa.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> From: Thomas Isgro <kc8dgu@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>
> To: wb5rue@stic.net
> Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
> Subject: Re: AOLoser problem & request
> Date: Monday, October 06, 1997 8:32 PM
 <snip>
> If you are going to offer unlimited access for $20 a month, you should
> have unlimited service, not just when everyone else logs off.
> --

AMEN TO THAT ONE!!!!

> **********
> **********
>
>
> 73 de
> KI8CZ
> Tom Isgro
> OHIO
>
> http://www.qsl.net/ki8cz
>
>
> 10-X #68364   SCI #1479   QRP-L #945   ARS #203
> C.A.T.T #2115   FIST 2360   NORCAL   ARRL
>
> **********
> **********

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 13:09:26 -0500
From: Tom Moll <tomm@xata.com>
To: "'qrp-l@lehigh.edu'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28230] SST 20m Info?
Message-ID: <01BCD322.3D652980@TOMM>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Hi Gang,
After a way too long absence from this list due to work obligations, I =
am finally able to find the time to participate again.
When I postponed, I had just finished building my 20m SST, and first qso =
was another SST in CA - quite a thrill.
My question is, during the last couple months or so, has anyone made a =
compilation of the thead on the 20m SST (mods, comments, etc) that I =
could get a copy of ? In particular, I think the sensitivity / audio =
could use a slight improvement, and what was the best solution found to =
raise the top end of the frequency coverage a bit? If anyone has =
anything of importance, I would appreciate it. Private replies would be =
fine so as not to waste the bandwidth please. TIA.
Tom Moll, NoBS

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 10:56:28 -0600
From: Brad Mugleston <bmug@gwl.com>
To: "'lewise@inetport.com'" <lewise@inetport.com>
Cc: "'qrp-l@lehigh.edu'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28231] Larry in North Dakota
Message-ID: <01BCD30F.AAABFEA0@pps-pc10.gwl.com>
Content-Type: text

Was playing with the radio last night waiting for the CQC net to start and
heard a loud CQ CQ CQ de KA5T/0 ND so I thought what the heck I'll throw 2
watts at it and see what happens.

Bingo, Larry comes right back, lots of QRM but he was there with 5 watts.
 Gave me a quick FOX like exchange and back to me. I was surprised so I
sent him mine and asked if this was a TEST. He said no just having fun.

Boy is it a small world - rack up one more 2X QRP State.

Larry, when are you going South? I need South Dakota.

Thanks

de KB0ROL, Brad

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 11:37:29 -0700
From: ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us (Hendricks, Doug)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28232] Pacificon Update from Vic Black (long)
Message-ID: <3.0.1.32.19971007113729.006f7a78@telis.org>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Vic Black, AB6SO is the president of the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association and he gave me a copy of their latest newsletter, "PAARAgraphs" at the last NorCal meeting. He wrote a good overview of Pacificon and what is going on there this year. The following is posted with permission from Vic Black.

.....

Pacificon, scheduled for Friday through Sunday, October 17, 18, and 19 at the Concord Hilton Hotel in Concord, is competing head-to-head with "Contact" for the title of Event of the Year. At a pre-registration cost of only $3 this hamfest and convention is truly an entertainment and educational bargain. If you wait to pay at the door, it still costs only $5 for the full three day program. Not bad since it costs $2 for parking alone to attend a Foothill Flea Market. But what do you get for you hard earned $3?

First of all, there's a two day flea market. Next, you can attend the manufacturers' commercial displays and see all of the new products for 1998. You can even get show discounts if you want to be the first in your neighborhood with the latest ham gadgets and toys. A major attraction for many is the large number of technical forums. Ray Gaschk, who spoke to PAARA last year, has arranged for an entire day of antenna forums on Friday. (There's an additional cost of $10 for these forums to pay for the educational materials) [KI6DS note: Bill Jones, KD7S is one of the presenters at the antenna forum this year.] PAARA member Bill Rausch AA6PA will lead the AMSAT forum on satellite communications. There will be an operating satellite station and special event station as well as an added attraction this year: an antenna testing session. Other forums will help you get started with Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS), the

Internet, DX, high speed packet and bicycle mobile, among others.

Let's look at just one aspect of the forums. Doug Hendricks, KI6DS of the NorCal QRP Club shared much of the following information with me. Only four years old, the NorCal club now boasts more than 2500 members in 75 countries. This great size allows the club to sponsor an outstanding lineup of world class speakers to Pacificon. NorCal alone is sponsoring six technical forums. But, wait! It's not all QRP. For instance, World Record CW speed champ Chuck Adams, K5FO of Dallas, Texas and high speed CW whiz Monte Stark, KU7Y of Reno will conduct a CW contest operating demonstration. Watching them explain operating tips and techniques could improve your on-the-air capabilities regardless of your transmitter power level or your interest in contesting since contesting is really nothing more than a disguised form of message handling.

Mike Gipe, K1MG will demonstrate surface mount construction techniques. This is the printed circuit technique that allows the new HT's and HF rigs to be so small. Yes, you CAN do it at home using SurfBoards, the surfacemount equivalent of perfboard.

Roy Lewallen, W7EL is an engineer at Tektronix in Beaverton, Oregon. Many consider Roy to be one of the world's best antenna software programmers. His antenna modeling programs ELNEC and EXNEC are world standards. He'll talk about one of his favorite ham activities, operating from field locations. Each year he meets hams from the Bay Area to set up Field Day operations at Klamath Falls near the Oregon/California border in order to test his field rigs. His W7EL Transceiver is a classic and is widely regarded as the rig that started the modern, 5 Watt HF revolution. Roy and fellow Tektronix engineer Wes Hayward, W7ZOI inspired Wayne Burdick, N6KR to become a ham while Wayne was still in Junior High. You'll remember Wayne as a PAARA guest speaker when he discussed his NorCal 40 transceiver design.

Wayne has now designed a whole family of highly efficient rigs and excellent ham accessories including the Sierra, the world's only 9 band CW transceiver commercially available in kit form. His KC-1 was the world's first audio based frequency counter/memory keyer. The KC-2, NOrCal 49er and the SST series of tiny monoband transceivers all broke new ground in design philosophy. Since Wayne is world renowned for his simple, elegant, efficient and minized rigs, it's appropriate that he will speak about optimizing transceiver designs. Thes kit products are available from PAARAgraphs advertiser Wilderness Radio.

Dave Benson, NN1G, will travel from Newington, CT to share his experiences as the owner of Small Wonder Labs. Dave is one of the world's foremost HF transceiver designers and will discuss his design philosophy which varies substantially from Wayne Burdick's. His product line includes the NN1G transceiver, the 30-40 and 40-40 CW transceivers, the Green Mountain series of CW transceivers, and the White Mountain series of SSB transceivers, all available as kits.

When Ori Mizrahi-Shalom, AC6AN described his 38 Special at PAARA's January meeting, he mentioned that it would accept the recently developed TiCK keyer as a drop in accessory. That keyer was invented by Gary Diana, N2JGU

and Brad Mitchell, WB8YGG from Rochester, NY. They started their company, Embedded Research, to supply innovative products to the ham market after they designed the Atomic Keyer and the revolutionary TiCK series of keyers. The TiCK is a PIC RISC based Iambic keyer chip adjustable for either mode A or B and mounts on a PC board only 1 x 1.2 inches. Maybe the most revolutionary thing about their chip design is the low sticker price of $5! The TiCK-2 keyer includes a memory and their latest model keyer uses surface mount technology and is truly tiny (about the size of a postage stamp). They'll discuss the TiCK keyers and the history of Iambic keyer chips. (Yes, much of their competition is now history!). You may want to check http://www.frontiernet/~embres for their web page.

If you're interested in learning to align your rigs don't miss Paul Harden, NA5N. Paul is a technician for the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Socorro, New Mexico (featured in the movie "Contact"). He authored the "Data Book for QRPers", a must have book for homebrewers. Paul's outstanding presentation made him one of the most popular speakers at last year's Pacificon.

St. Louis, Missouri consultant Dave Gauding, NF0R will discuss antennas for portable and stealth operations. This forum is a "must see" if you live in an apartment. Dave is well known for his design contributions to the St. Louis Tuner, the St. Louis Audio Filter, and the telescoping fishing pole St. Louis Vertical Antenna designs.

Oh, yes! There's one other important aspect to Pacificon. It allows you to meet new friends and to renew old acquaintances. I'll look for you there. Vic Black, AB6SO

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 12:52:40 -0600
From: "Phil, K6LS" <k6ls@amsat.org>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28233] Re: Pacificon Update from Vic Black
Message-ID: <343A76E8.41A5@amsat.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

to shorten it up abit, for 3 or 5 dollars you cant go wrong for 3 days of amateur radio activities. Have been to the last 3 and am regretting that I cannot goto this years. Had fun, learned mucho and spent alot of money (not required to have fun, but helps ! :-) Lots of good people, go if you can, you wont regret it!

--
73 de Phil, K6LS/0

QRP-L #612 NorCal #824
CQC #471 ARCI #8866
k6ls@qsl.net <or> k6ls@amsat.org
DM79or, Arapahoe County, Colorado
ITU zone 7, CQ zone 4
http://www.qsl.net/k6ls

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 11:53:42 -0700
From: "Michael Fletcher" <kl7ixi@mailcity.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, "Larry H Sykes" <kc5aik@juno.com>
Subject: [28234] (No Subject)
Message-ID: <ANEFHLKGMIBGCAAA@mailcity.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Larry,
   My .38 Special was the first kit that I had assembled in more than 15 years, and
the first with digital components.
   Overall the kit gets an A+ but you need to follow the online .38 Special Construction
Manual instead of the one with the kit. The kit does have a correction sheet in the
first few pages that corrects some of the stuff. Gary Surrency lived close to me and has been very helpful in coming up with the majority of the correct mods for the kit. The fact that he only lived five miles from me also helped.
   The toroids will have one or two less turns than specified in the original manual.
Look for the changes.
   Also there will be a .01 cap from a diode to ground that is important.
   I bought IC sockets for all the ICs and they were needed since the 74HC240 that came with the kit caused problems. They are only about 89 cents so it was worthwhile
to buy a couple extra.
   You should go immediately for the 5 watt mod which needs the TICK keyer chip mod
to get some extra needed buffers. The TICK is a great little keyer and only cost $5 for the chip plus the cost of a extra transistor and a couple of resistors and caps.
   The keying thump is a problem with the .38S but can be lived with. Overall, the kit gave me far more entertainment satisfaction for the bucks spent than anything I've worked on in quite awhile.
   The final cost for the kit, potentiometers, FET power amp, TICK chip, extra

components
and an inexpensive case drive the cost up to about $50. But what is nice is that mods will continue to be developed for it for sometime and it is a easy kit to work
on and modify.
   Enjoy! Now my appetite has been wetted for more, I've got my eyes on a Wilderness
Sierra multi-band QRP transceiver kit now.

72,
Mike KL7IXI
temporarily in Vancover, WA

Get your free and private web-based e-mail from our new partner at http://www.mailexcite.com

---

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 12:06:50 -0700
From: Jerry Parker <jparker@fix.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28235] NorCal's Meeting Report
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19971007190650.00a99300@fix.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

The October Meeting Report is now up on the NorCal
Page.

        http://www.fix.net/norcal.html

Enjoy,,,72,,,Jerry...WA6OWR...K

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 15:13:50 -0400
From: Marcus Harton <mharton@freedomforum.org>
To: "'qrp-l@lehigh.edu'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28236] QRP Dummy Load

Message-ID: <01BCD333.9F079B80@fxmhbroad.freedomforum.org>

Sorry for re-plowing old ground, but I need to construct a qrp dummy load. I recall a post from the past that contained directions for one that even included Radio Shack part numbers.

If anyone saved the posting, I would be grateful for a copy of it.

72 & tnx,

marcus nz4e

Date: Tue, 07 Oct 1997 13:03:28 -0700
From: Vic Rosenthal <rakefet@rakefet.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28237] Spam attack?
Message-ID: <343A9590.2E3641A9@rakefet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

OK, I know...but maybe someone has had the same experience. Recently I've been FLOODED with spam. I used to get a few messages a week, pretty much evenly divided between 'Get rich quick' and 'Meet naked girls'. Now, I've been getting as many as five to eight A DAY -- almost all of the 'Get rich' variety.

1) Has anyone else experienced this recently?

2) It seems to have started at about the time I registered my email address with Ebay so I could bid in their auctions. I do not want to accuse anybody on the basis of a post hoc ergo propter hoc argument (for those of you whose native language isn't Latin, that means 'after this therefore because of this'), but could this be the reason?

3) How can I make it stop (private email on this is probably best).

ObQRP: fox fox fox fox fox TONIGHT! I'm ready to do my bit for my (adopted) state of CA.

Vic K2VCO

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 16:07:03 -0400
From: sarraf@thermacore.com
To: w4stx@gte.net
Cc: qrp-l@listserv.lehigh.edu
Subject: [28238] Re: Sputnik
Message-ID: <85256529.006D3A1E.00@tci-nt02.thermacore.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Bill:

Your QSL card translates as follows:

On the front side:

USSR Moskva Sputnik

(Moscow is pronounced Moskva in Russia)

On the back side:

To: A participant of the first in the world Soviet artificial Earth satellite surveilance program William Penhallegon.

Thank you for the provided information. Your observations are of a significant scientific value. We use them in the International Geophysical Program (year).

We look forward to receiving further data from you.

USSR Committee on IGY (International Geophysical Year).

Dave Sarraf
N3NDJ
Elizabethown, PA

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 15:31:04 -0500 (CDT)
From: Bill Morris Denton <bdenton@tenet.edu>
To: Jack Meadows <jackmead@getnet.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28239] Re: FOX: "Ole Coots" Team Announcement
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.96.971007152314.17807C-100000@Joyce-Perkins.tenet.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

You guys must be desperate. K5ZTY affectionately known around these parts
a "uncle ZED". He got that handle for a reason. He has gone completely
stone deaf in both ears. He was turn down by all the other fox teams.
Old coots is were he needs to be.

BTW Jack... you were the strongest of the lot on 20m last lite. You were
right up there on 40m as well.

Bill W5SB

On Tue, 7 Oct 1997, Jack Meadows wrote:

> We are five! The Ole Coots team is officially active and on the
> hunt. We have ears from Florida across Texas and all the way to
> California. Hearing is worth at least ten dB of copper or
> aluminum any day! Our prestigious members are:
>
> Bill KK4KF FL
> Gary AA6R CA
> Lynn KJ3V AL
> Bill K5ZTY TX
> Jack W7QQQ AZ
>
>
> Oscar Wilde:
> "The English country gentleman galloping after a fox -- the unspeakable
> in full pursuit of the uneatable."
>
> Ha!
> Best regards to all,
> Jack W7QQQ
>
>
>
> --
>   The Team Challenge

> >
> > The Team Challenge is the one where any 3-5 Hunters
> > can join forces. The Team score is a running total,
> > taken from the total number of Team pelts bagged to
> > date, and divided by the number of Team members. Good
> > way to gang up with your pals across the continent.
> > Maybe even hedge your bet and pick a friend outside
> > of your normal Fox coverage. ;-)
> >
> > There are already two Teams running loose, with more
> > about to be announced. So pick a few Hunter friends,
> > join forces, and let me know ASAP! Nice thing is that
> > if you get skunked, you can still root for your fellow
> > Team critters. :)
> >
> > Please note that these "events" are *totally* separate
> > from the Fox Hunt. They use Fox Hunt data, but should
> > not interfere with the Hunt in any way. If they do,
> > they're history.
> >
> > That's the story folks. The rest is up to you. Now if
> > you'll excuse me, I've been training some badgers to
> > love the taste of coax. Figure I let a few go in CA,
> > TX and NV and suddenly Team AB7*T* will shortly be in
> > lead.... ;-)
> >
> > Cheers de AB7TT,
> >
> > -Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPions (Phoenix)
> >
> > "'Fraid nobody around here, understands my potato;
> >   Think I'm only a Spudboy, looking for a real tomato." -DEVO
> >
> >
>
>
>
>
>

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 12:04:08 -0500 (CDT)
From: Bill Howell <bhowell@mail.utexas.edu>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28240] Building an AT-11 Ver 2.4? CORRECTION!

Message-ID: <199710071704.MAA28207@mail.utexas.edu>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I just recently got around to building the LDG AT-11,
Version 2.4, which I got thru the Group Buy a few
few months ago.
There is an error on the board layout shown on the
last page of the instruction book.

Just to the left of the uP (U1), there is a resistor
labelled R46, (1K). This is incorrect. It should be
labelled R45 (3.3K).

On my print, R45 is shown just below the osc module.
On the PCB, there is actually *no* R45 below the osc module.

I spoke with Jennifer at LDG and and she gave me the
above correction.
Other version #'s may not have this error.
If you're building a Ver 2.4, you may want to check
the board layout on the last page of the manual.

BTW, Jennifer was very helpful when I phoned her
about this problem.

Bill Howell
University of Texas at Austin
Performing Arts Center
Electronic Maintenance
N5ALO QRP-L #415

belief preceeds experience

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 97 14:44:53 MDT
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.Edu (William R Colbert)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28241] Re: SLIM - XU2ZD
Message-ID: <9710072044.AA12680@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

I seem to recall that the XU2 was originally used in the China

area just after WWII, then I think it was assigned to Burma?
The call mentioned is familiar, not from having heard on the air,
but perhaps having seen it in recent months in the Antique QSL page
of World Radio? I suppose it could be some past qso/cq's of years
past bouncing past from the long trip thru outer space. ;)

--
Ray Colbert, W5XE
OOTC 3618, SOWP 1064M
El Paso, Tx (Far West Texas)
(also: v31xe@dzn.com)

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 14:53:58 -0700 (MST)
From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
To: ji3m@maxwell.com
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28242] Re: Fox Hunt Evolution and Nostalgia
Message-ID: <199710072153.OAA10603@usr05.primenet.com>

Howdy Duffey (and Folks),

Duffey (KK6MC/5) wrote:
>
> I note from the large number of comments I have read about the first two
> Fox Hunts and from personal observation that the Fox Hunt of years past has
> evolved from a congenial activity night into a highly competitive sprint. I
> feel some sadness at the passing of the original Fox Hunt and the personna
> surrounding it.
>
[Really good info/thoughts on Fox hunts deleted for bandwidth]
>

Don't worry, I'm still standing by my belief that
last week was a fluke. We had good condx for Tim
and *excellent* condx for Brian. I can't ever recall
a Hunt where the band was so wide open for the whole
two hours. Think Brian may well have been the most
hounded Fox in history because of it! (My brain would
have melted down had I been in his situation....)

After a few more weeks the novelty will wear off for
some, daily life will settle back in (PTA meetings,
dinners with the in-laws, Gilligan's Island reruns)
and condx will oscillate between very good and

downright abominable. Things will quiet down soon.
TU's and GL's will be plentiful, and Foxii will
operate how they choose (as always).

That's the best thing about the Fox Hunt - so many
different Foxii for so many months, everyone is
guaranteed to get out of it whatever it is they may
be looking for.

I have to agree that my best Fox hunting memories
are from the nights you'd chase static for well over
an hour, neither Fox nor a Hound to be heard beneath
the QRN, and suddenly for a few brief glorious minutes
the Fox would pop up to a solid 339. And somehow you'd
manage to work each other, and do the Happy Dance the
rest of the night while a worried spouse looked on. :-)

So don't despair. There are still plenty of those
nights to be had. Just have to wait a little bit.
A six of Dos Equis on me if I'm wrong. You bring the
lime. :-)

Good luck tonight!

Cheers de AB7TT,

-Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPions (Phoenix)

"Veni Vertical Vamos - I came, I radiated, I left". -AB7TT

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 16:47:25 -0400 (EDT)
From: Richard Mulvey <mulveyr@frontiernet.net>
To: rakefet@rakefet.com
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28243] Re: Spam attack?
Message-ID: <199710072047.QAA58608@node6.frontiernet.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> OK, I know...but maybe someone has had the same experience. Recently
> I've been FLOODED with spam. I used to get a few messages a week,
> pretty much evenly divided between 'Get rich quick' and 'Meet naked
> girls'. Now, I've been getting as many as five to eight A DAY -- almost
> all of the 'Get rich' variety.

>
> 1) Has anyone else experienced this recently?
>

It tends to come in waves - especially on the weekends. When spammers hijack the mail servers of other ISP's, they do it when there is a smaller chance of somebody being around to see it happening. This weekend alone, my logs show that about 30 pieces of spam arrived.

> 2) It seems to have started at about the time I registered my email
> address with Ebay so I could bid in their auctions. I do not want to
> accuse anybody on the basis of a post hoc ergo propter hoc argument (for
> those of you whose native language isn't Latin, that means 'after this
> therefore because of this'), but could this be the reason?
>

It's possible. However, most spammers get their e-mail addresses from USENET postings, web pages, and mailing lists (like this one! :-)

> 3) How can I make it stop (private email on this is probably best).
>

You can try looking at the headers of the spam, to see where it came from. That is often of limited use, however, especially when the spammers bounces the mail off of an innocent ISP. In any case, complain to postmaster account of *EVERY* ISP that is listed in the header. Chnaces are that somebody will take action. Also, you can support the CAUSE group. (Look at www.cauce.com.) They are trying to implement legislation to make spam illegal.

For the moment, try using a mail filter. I use procmail on my linux box. It is set up so that any mail that doesn't come from:

A mailing list that I'm subscribed to
A person who I know
A "blocked" domain

is immediately trashed.

Blocked domains include Cyberpromo.com, etc, whose *only* purpose is to send spam. Other domains that I've blocked include earthlink.net, because of their inability/refusal to block the huge amounts of spam that originate there.

Thankfully, the biggest spammer out there, cyberpromo, had their plug pulled last week, and have been unable to find a new ISP who will

connect them. This should *vastly* reduce the level of spam for a
while.

- Rich

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 23:11:53 +0100
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (Chuck Adams)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28244] RUFZ V3.0 Program
Message-ID: <199710072211.XAA01789@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Others have brought up over some period of time the name of a Morse
program called RUFZ. Here is the first paragraph of the document file
that comes with the program. It runs on PC systems 386 or greater
and you should have a soundblaster card for best tone and shaping.

This program is free at first. It will cost you a lot of time later
on. :-)

Manual of RUFZ - Software by DL4MM

Version: 3.0 25.06.97

*** What is RUFZ ? ***

"RUFZ" is the abbreviation of the German word "Rufzeichen-H'ren" and is
training-software to improve CW-abilities, particularly the listening of
usual Amateur radio calls. It should be used by an advanced CW-operator
to perfect memory-copying at higher speeds. Otherwise the initial-speed
can be selected very low, so also newcomers have a good training
possibility. For learning CW RUFZ is not suitable. In this case you
should use other CW-training-programs.

...snip snip

If you can surf the web, then you can get it from

http://www.pobox.com./~toec/rufz.htm
http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Park/4182

and if you can't surf but you can ftp then you can get it via anonymous
ftp from

ftp://kgiprn.geo.tu-dresden.de/pub/hamradio/rufz

I have checked both these routes personally, so I know they work
if you ISP and associated sites have DNS working and configured
properly. :-)

I spent considerable time on a daily basis using the previous version
I managed a score in the top 10. And just when I was getting there POW!!
they changed the versions and the new scores started all over with V3.0.
Copying calls is different than copying plain text, IMHO. An order of
magnitude more difficult for most people.

So let me be the first to warn you. This is not recommended for those
with high blood pressure or quick of temper. :-) It will rapidly humble
you and bring you to your knees causing one to weep and cry with much
gnashing of teeth and much wailing. Woe to him that is alone when he
falleth, for he hath not another to help him up. ;-)

That all said and done, if you work on this program 30 minutes a day
after you have throughly learned the code and can do 20 wpm or so, you will
be ready for SS in oh, about a year. :-) Nah, months is all it will take.

The RUFZ program, version 2.12 had a database of 13K real contestor calls.
RUFZ V3.0 has a database of 38K real contestor calls. Either there are a
growing number of contestors or DL4MM has caught up on his typing. :-)

The web sight above also has the current high scores.

Copying callsigns is just one skill that one can concentrate on. Let me
start a flamewar here :-) and list what I think are some separate areas
where each area requires just a little different skill set in copying
the Morse language.

1. Everyday QSO's with pen and paper.
2. Everyday QSO's with typewriter.
3. High speed plain text with typewriter.
4. High speed contest exchanges, like SS with typewriter/computer.
5. High speed callsign recognition with one call at a time.
6. Copying plain text in the head without writing or taking notes.

7. QSOs while mobile.
8. Individual character recognition at maximum speeds.
9. Headphones vs. speaker effects on speed capabilities.

IMHO you should become good at #1 first 'cuz you need it for the
tests for Novice through Extra and it comes in handy most of the time.
Then branch out after that. Not failure but low aim is crime......

FYI
Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com
http://reality.sgi.com/adams/index.html

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 18:21:10 -0400
From: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
To: QRP-L Discussion Group <QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU>, "W.D. (Doc) Lindsey/K0EVZ"
<70511.3041@compuserve.com>
Subject: [28245] Help w/FY?/DJ0PJ
Message-ID: <199710071823_MC2-2321-BB54@compuserve.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Disposition: inline

Gang:

Just had [nearly?!] a QRP 2-way QSO with what I believe was FYx/DJ0PJ.
Pretty sure of the part after the "/"...but heard several different
versions of the "FYx" or maybe it was "FQx". Can anyone possibly help?
Has anyone else perhaps worked him maybe this afternoon?

Very frustrating...because RTTY/digital came on just regularly enough
so I kept missing parts of his call. His name is Dave. He gave me a
559, and I said he was 469. I copied his QTH as Kourou, if I got it
right.

Would really appreciate anyone's help with this. Am operating portable
from Ripon, WI, near the center of the state. Rig here is barefoot
Wilderness Sierra at 1.7 watts out. Antenna is the W3EDP...84' long,
the outer end perhaps 40 feet high. Using the 17' counterpoise on floor.

Have been QSOing right and left with this setup on 20 metres all
afternoon. Have worked lots of East Coasters. Even managed a noontime
40-metre QSO with MI...and got a 589.

If I can break loose, will be using this setup tonight in the FOXhunt.

But it is so early for me that it might not be doable at all. Nuts.
Let's hope.

Good luck to everyone tonight. Thanks to the FOX, also, and good luck.

72/73,
--Doc/K0EVZ qrp-l 861 norcal 2050 cqc 414 ARS 311 FISTS 3868 mn-qrp 19
nj-qrp 69 ak/qrp 139 AR QRP 73 ARCI 9398 ARRL WAS 48/38
DXCC 53/42 <>< FOX Total 10/6/97 2 of 2 + one N/T+ FOX.

OMNI V Sierra Argo 515 Norcal 40a SW-40 49er 38S Mercury Paddles
Emtech ZM-1 MFJ 259 MFJ 941D GAP TNT/2 Windom SLV/W6MMA G5RV
Autek QF-1 RS DSP-40

"Things should be as simple as possible, but no simpler"--A. Einstein

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Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 18:30:20 -400
From: "Jeff Casey" <WB5GWB@sprynet.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [28246] WTB: 38 Special
Message-ID: <199710072233.PAA11549@m7.sprynet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Gang,
Now that the 38 Specials are playing hard-to-get, I really want one!
:-) Anybody got an unbuilt spare?

Thanks much.

72,
Jeff, WB5GWB

Visit the Long Island QRP Club website:
http://www.hamtrader.com/liqrp/index.htm

"QRP -- Nothin' but sky"

Date: Tue, 7 Oct 1997 18:36:11 -0400
From: "Dean Marzocca" <n2tnn@ifu.net>

To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [28247] sw listening
Message-ID: <199710072237.SAA10521@ifu.ifu.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
     charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

 Hi all,
Does anyone have an opinion on sw radios? I have been thinking of getting one and I always see the ads for Grundig, especially the Yacht Boy 400. I know you can't go by the ads in the magazines but this one sounds to be very popular.
Comments and suggestions welcome.

72/73 de Dean   N2TNN NJ
n2tnn@ifu.net

End of QRP-L Digest 871
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